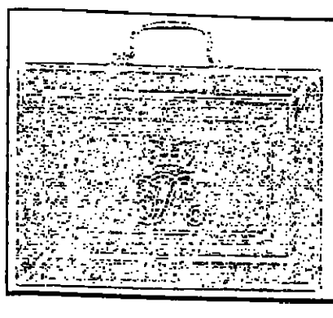
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THE TIMES

30p

No. 65,435 MONDAY NOVEMBER 27 1995



BUDGET WEEK IN THE TIMES

Starting today: The best reporting and comment

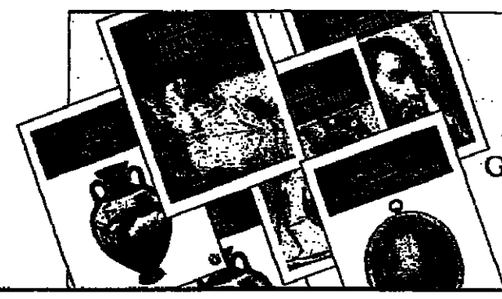
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Sport on 12 pages

Blackburn pass a test of resolve at Arsenal

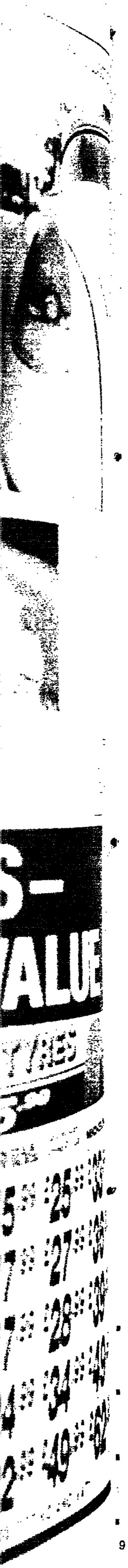
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PAGE 41



Dublin tables new proposals

Clinton close to Irish peace breakthrough

BY MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON, NICHOLAS WATT AND NICHOLAS WOOD

THE American Administration is privately hoping to engineer a long-awaited breakthrough in the stalled Irish peace process in time for President Clinton's three-day visit to Britain and Ireland later this week, or very soon after.

The news emerged yesterday as John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, tabled fresh proposals for breaking the deadlock over IRA weapons.

Mr Bruton's proposals were set out in a letter to John Major. A spokesman for the Irish Government said: "The Irish side has made substantive new proposals. We are working intensively with the object of having a summit at the earliest possible moment."

Publicly, the White House insists Mr Clinton will not be "pulling a rabbit out of the hat". But well-placed American sources believe the Administration is tantalisingly close to persuading Sinn Fein and the Irish Government to sign on to some form of Britain's "twin-track" plan for breaking the deadlock over the decommissioning of IRA weapons.

US optimism that the President's visit could be a trigger for movement came amid intense diplomatic efforts involving Washington, London and Dublin aimed at crowning Mr Clinton's visit with an agreement to take the peace process forward.

Mr Major and Mr Bruton spoke four times by telephone last week but failed to break the deadlock.

Hopes of an Anglo–Irish summit launching the "twin-track" formula, which also involves all-party exploratory talks, before Mr Clinton's arrival in London early on Wednesday looked slim, while not being ruled out.

Mr Clinton faces a tough re-election battle next year and the whole trip was planned with one eye on the substantial Irish-American vote. He would dearly love to cap his role in fostering the ceasefire 15 months ago by putting the peace process back on track.

Tony Lake, Mr Clinton's National Security Adviser, and Nancy Soderberg, the White House Irish affairs expert, spent a week in Britain and Ireland late last month seeking to facilitate a resolution to the impasse.

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein leader, had two meetings at the White House the week before last, and there has been a flurry of transatlantic telephone calls in the past few days.

Mr Bruton spoke to Mr Clinton on Thursday night and Mr Lake spoke to Dick Spring, the Irish Foreign Minister, on Saturday. America enjoys some leverage over Sinn Fein. Mr Clinton has taken considerable political risks by admitting Mr Adams to the US despite London's vehement objections and by letting him raise funds there.

The proposals from Dublin are designed to overcome differences between Britain and Ireland on the disarmament of the IRA.

Britain is adamant that Sinn Fein can join full scale talks only when the IRA has decommissioned some of its arms under the "Washington Three" principle. Dublin regards this as an unacceptable precondition and says that "Washington Three" should be included within the remit of a proposed international disarmament commission.

The Irish Government spokesman yesterday refused to be drawn on the details of Mr Bruton's latest proposals. However, one senior Irish source said that Dublin would be pressing Britain to formalise comments by Sir Patrick Mayhew in October, which appeared to indicate a softening of Britain's position on the arms issue.

Speaking after the last meeting of the Anglo-Irish Conference in Belfast in October, the Northern Ireland Secretary said Britain would be prepared to consider proposals on the arms issue from the proposed international disarmament commission. Dublin wants Britain to pledge that Sir Patrick's comments covered "Washington Three".

Sir Patrick yesterday reiterated the Government's insistence that the IRA would have to decommission some of its arms before Sinn Fein could join all party talks.

Yesterday, British and Irish politicians appeared gloomy about the prospects of progress. A senior US source cautioned against firmly predicting a breakthrough during Mr Clinton's visit, warning it "could all fall apart. It's been up and down for the last week or two".

ANDRE CAMARA



The Princess of Wales leaving Buenos Aires airport yesterday for her last engagement before flying home at the end of her four-day visit to Argentina. Page 3

Lang clears way for tax cuts as Tories look to private capital

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND JANET BUSH

TORY hopes of big tax cuts in tomorrow's Budget were fuelled yesterday by Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, as he highlighted the Government's radical plans to turn to the private sector to build the roads, schools and hospitals of the future.

Foreshadowing an announcement that could give the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, an extra £2 billion for reducing taxes on top of the £3 billion already in the kitty, Mr Lang said the Government was set to raise the profile of the private finance initiative [PFI], which would prove a "very considerable assistance" to easing pressures on the public purse.

"The private finance initiative is there and is increasingly expanding to enable infrastructure expenditure to take place independently of public expenditure levels." Mr Lang said on BBC television.

But at the same time, he insisted that the Chancellor would not be seeking "irresponsible, cheap, short-term headlines". He emphasised industry's need for low inflation and interest rates.

This was taken by senior Tories as a signal that Mr Clarke will reduce the public spending ceiling for next year by more than the amount he gives away in lower taxes.

City analysts and Tory MPs believe he could slash the £263 billion control total for 1996-97 by as much as £7 billion and use some of the savings to rein in a worrying overshoot on public borrowing of as much as £4 billion. This would please the City and give him scope to bring off the "double whammy" of eyecatching tax cuts and an early reduction in interest rates.

Mr Clarke is due to meet Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, two weeks after the Budget. With the slowdown in the economy, hopes are rising among ministers that if Mr Clarke reassures the markets by being tough on spending, he may be able to cut rates by 0.5 per cent by Christmas.

Tessa Keswick, until recently the Chancellor's special adviser at the Treasury, indicated that Mr Clarke is poised to begin the Tory fightback by urging him to be "bold".

She said on BBC radio: "It is the last opportunity to show what the Conservatives stand for — lower taxes . . . he has an ideal opportunity to lower taxes. He also has the opportunity to take more risks because the economy is slowing a bit. That gives him a much greater leeway than he would have otherwise."

Mrs Keswick added that there was no point Mr Clarke playing safe and handing over an economy in "incredible shape" to an incoming Labour government.

Privately, ministers were in no doubt that the Chancellor had to make a dramatic impact with his Budget.

One minister said: "It is a make-or-break Budget. If this doesn't work, short of sacking half the Cabinet when Scott reports [on arms to Iraq], then there is not much Major can do. It is the last chance for us."

Government officials now readily confirm that PFI

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Post strike over

Postal workers were returning to work after a week-long unofficial strike which has brought chaos to businesses in Scotland. The backlog of 12 million items delayed in delivery offices will take most of the week to clear, the Royal Mail predicted ..... Page 2

Student debts

The amount of money owed in student loans is forecast to quadruple to £4 billion in under three years, according to unpublished government documents obtained by *The Times*. On present trends, £500 million of that money is never likely to be recovered ..... Page 8

THE TIMES Christmas Appeal in aid of The Royal Marsden Hospital

CHILDREN'S CANCER UNIT

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Police recruit civilians to keep watch on criminals

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

CIVILIANS are being used by a police force to perform undercover surveillance operations against targeted criminals. The specially recruited and trained 12-member team will have no police powers, but can give evidence in court.

The men and women were recruited by Hertfordshire police and include a number of former police officers and civilians who have left other jobs. One man used to produce videos for a London firm.

The plan is being monitored by Home Office officials, and other forces are likely to copy it. Police are now under pressure to target criminals and build up detailed intelligence on them rather than waste officers' time chasing them after crimes are committed.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, and his police advisers have urged chief constables to be "pro-active". The results of the Hertfordshire experiment will be reported on by the Inspectorate of Constabulary.



A *Police Review* advert

Questions are certain to be raised over the type of sensitive information to which members of the unit have access, and their safety. They cannot make arrests or restrain a suspect as the police can.

The team is due to begin work in January, but will not be used against top-level suspects. It could be sent to watch burglary suspects, car thieves or street drug dealers. If it provides material which could lead to arrests, full-time police officers will take over.

Senior police sources say the scheme will give the force more surveillance officers. No police jobs will be lost, but junior officers are suspicious that the intention is to get police work done cheaply.

The Force Intelligence Developers are being given advanced police driving training and will be expected to use surveillance technology, including secret radios. Men and women have been taken on in a broad mix of ages and ethnic backgrounds.

They will be paid between £14,997 and £16,608 a year, which is close to the wages of a young constable. The jobs were advertised earlier this year in local Hertfordshire newspapers and police magazines.

Classrooms to key into Old Masters

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CHILDREN will be able to view great paintings and other art treasures at the touch of a button under proposals being drawn up by Iain Sproat, Minister of State at the National Heritage Department.

Pupils would have access via classroom computer links to all the country's great works of art, cultural artefacts and historical remains. Using the interactive new network, dubbed the "Arts Internet", they would be able to view paintings and sculptures on a screen, zoom in on areas of special interest, explore shapes and call up artists' biographies and details of their techniques.

Mr Sproat, the architect of the school sports initiative launched in the summer, is planning a similar exercise for the arts. Attention would be directed at building links with local arts groups, promoting centres of excellence and strengthening the place of the arts in schools.

As with games, schools would be required to devote time to the arts, possibly two hours from the weekly timetable. They would also be encouraged to offer activities such as drama and music during breaks, after school and at weekends. Schools achieving a target of, say, four hours a week of extra-curricular artistic activity would be entitled to apply for an "artsmark" akin to the new "sportsmark" awards.

Lottery money would be used to pay for musical instruments and items such as stage props and lighting. It could also help to fund new roving teams of teachers, who would visit schools and youth centres and encourage young people to participate in a revival of

Continued on page 2 col 7

Survey confirms that crime breeds crime

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

CRIMINALS are breeding faster than law-abiding people, a leading psychologist claims. He believes the inheritance of criminal characteristics and the tendency of people with criminal records to have more children are contributing to the increase in crime.

Professor Richard Lynn, who recently retired from the University of Ulster in Coleraine, says in the *Journal of Biosocial Science* that he studied 104 British parents with criminal convictions and found that they had significantly more children than the national average. He believes his findings suggest that criminal behaviour may be an inheritable genetic trait.

The data came from the Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development, a survey of 411 boys first selected in 1961-62 when they were eight or nine years old. They were drawn from the poorer parts of London and their lives have been followed since then to try to identify the factors that distinguish those who became delinquent from those who did not.

Professor Lynn examined the records for boys whose parents had had convictions for criminal offences by the time the boys were ten. He found that the average number of children in families where either parent had a conviction was 3.91, compared with 3.12 for those without convictions. "This result shows that the fertility of criminals is higher than that of non-criminals drawn from the same social class and urban residence in London," he says.

The gap between the fertility of the criminal parents and the national average of 2.21 was even greater, and provided a more important comparison, he argues.

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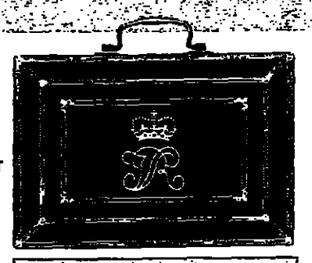


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TUESDAY



BUDGET CHECKLIST
The guide to have beside you as the Chancellor speaks
PLUS:
Libby Purves, Nigella Lawson, Interactive Team Football

BUDGET WEEK IN THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY



ESSENTIAL FASHION
Iain R. Webb on the sexy pin-stripe suit
PLUS:
12-page supplement on what the Budget means to you

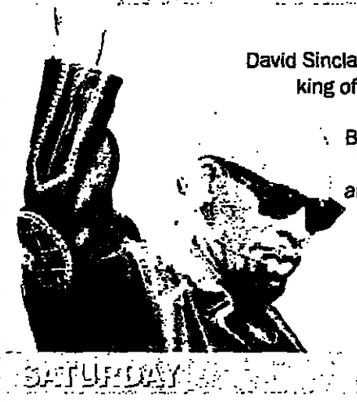
THURSDAY

FILMS OF THE WEEK
Joan Collins in Kenneth Branagh's *In The Bleak Midwinter*
PLUS:
John Bryant on sport, and the Appointments section



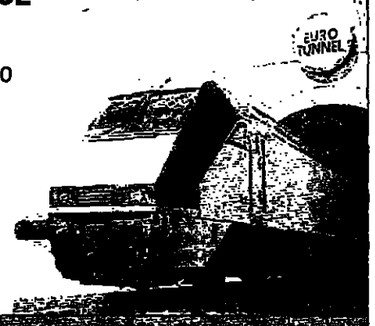
FRIDAY

POP
David Sinclair on R. Kelly, king of boudoir soul
PLUS:
Bernard Levin, Valerie Grove and Education



SATURDAY

GO CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IN FRANCE
Travel on Le Shuttle for under £30 and get 33 per cent off all duty-free goods
WIN
Our top 100 winter wines



EVERY DAY THIS WEEK WIN A HOLIDAY FOR TWO

Challenge as historic referendum is decided by 9,124 votes

Irish divorce opponents to fight in court

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

OPPONENTS of divorce in the Irish Republic vowed yesterday to mount a legal challenge to the referendum result that ended the constitutional ban on divorce.

As Ireland contemplated the most fundamental social change since its independence from Britain more than 70 years ago, an anti-divorce group said it would appeal to the High Court. Muintir na hEireann (the people of Ireland), a small, conservative Roman Catholic group, said it would base the challenge on the narrowness of the victory, secured by just 9,124 votes — the margin between the 50.3 per cent in favour and 49.7 against.

The organisation said it would also tell the courts that the result was unreliable because the Government had wrongly spent public money urging people to vote Yes. Although ministers complied with a ruling by the Irish Supreme Court on 10 November that it was unconstitutional to use taxpayers' money to urge a Yes vote, the Government had already spent £500,000 in the early stages of the campaign. Challenges must be lodged within seven days of the publication of the result.

Ireland's ban on divorce was introduced in Eamon De Valera's constitution in 1937. Rory O'Hanlon, a retired judge who chaired the No Divorce campaign, described the change to the constitution as a "grave offence against natural law and a plague on society — I couldn't rest easy as long as there is such a provision contained in our law".

The Government yesterday defended the changes to the constitution that were drawn up with care to allay the fears of traditionalists. Couples must have lived apart for at least four years and satisfy the courts that there is no prospect of a reconciliation.

Successive governments have also passed a series of laws to deal with the division of property and custody of children since the opponents of divorce won the last referendum in 1986 with 63.1 per cent of the vote. Dick Spring, Ireland's deputy prime minister, said the Government would introduce legislation to enact the referendum as soon as possible.

He added: "I'm very glad it's been a victory for the Yes campaign. It does reflect huge change in social attitudes in Ireland since 1986."

The vote highlighted deep divisions between urban and rural Ireland. Only four rural constituencies voted in favour of divorce, although support had increased in rural areas. Voters in Dublin and Cork City registered a strong Yes.

MARTIN McCULLOUGH



Mags O'Brien and Peter Ward of the Right to Remarry group celebrate

Result cheered by couples in life of 'suspended animation'

TENS of thousands of separated couples who have been unable to divorce were celebrating yesterday after voters decided to end Ireland's constitutional ban on divorce (Nicholas Watt writes). Up to 80,000 separated couples, who live in what the Government described as "suspended animation", will be free to divorce and remarry.

Mary Lacey, who has been unable to marry her partner of ten years because of an earlier marriage, said she felt "sheer relief" when the result was announced. Ms Lacey, 36, of Letterfrack, Co Galway, has a seven-year-old son by her partner, Peter Guy, 40.

She said: "I couldn't bear to watch the last two hours of the election coverage on television because the result was so close. When I heard the result it took a few minutes to sink in, but we wasted little time in celebrating."

Ms Lacey, who has organised the "yes" campaign in Connemara, said last month that there was a stigma attached to her relationship. "It is quite frightening that you cannot get divorced," she said. Another couple in Connemara rushed out after the result and wrote "Just Married" on their car with shaving cream.

Rosalind and Sean Coyne, who live in Renvyle, Co Galway, were married in England and have two children. The Roman Catholic Church does not recognise their marriage because Mr Coyne was married before in the Irish Republic and obtained a divorce in England. Mr Coyne, 45, said he felt joy, elation and relief. "If the 'no' vote had won a lot of people would have been hurt. But nobody is hurt with a 'yes' vote."

Mr Coyne said he would be consulting his solicitors because he is unsure whether his English divorce would be recognised in Ireland. "It's a legal minefield," he said. Mr Coyne claimed that he had been ostracised by the Catholic Church after his divorce.

Delays on motorway toll tests raise fear of rethink

By Jonathan Prynn, Transport Correspondent

GOVERNMENT plans to charge drivers for using motorways have been put on hold for six months amid growing fears that the scheme may be close to collapse.

One of the eight groups chosen to test electronic tolling equipment on the M3 near Basingstoke, Hampshire, has pulled out of the trials and several others are reconsidering their involvement.

The M3 trials, originally due to start next summer, have been postponed until the start of 1997 at the earliest and are thought unlikely to begin before the next general election. Preliminary tests at the Government's Transport Research Laboratory have also been delayed from their January start date to late summer next year after a dispute over which group's equipment should be tested first.

The timing is further complicated by a similar programme of tests to take place in South Korea in the spring, which will involve many of the groups in the M3 experiment. The continuing uncertainty has led to the Siemens Traffic Controls consortium, made up of German, American and British companies, abandoning the trials.

The remaining seven bidders, which are putting up an average £3 million each to participate, are increasingly worried about the Government's political commitment to road tolling. Several were involved in similar trials in Germany earlier this year, which also ran months behind schedule.

A spokesman for one bidder said: "If it drags on beyond the next Parliament the equipment will be obsolete and all the work will have been a complete waste of money."

The Department of Transport insisted, however, that the Government remained committed to the policy and that the trials would eventually go ahead.

☐ Traffic congestion caused by cuts in the road-building programme will cost the average household the equivalent of a 1½p rise in income tax, according to a report from the Centre for Economics and Business Research.

Companies were being forced to pass on to consumers the additional distribution costs caused by crowded roads, which could total £4.5 billion a year by 2010 if the roads programme was axed.

Post Office workers end Scottish strike

By A Staff Reporter

POSTAL workers were returning to work last night at the end of a week-long unofficial strike which severely disrupted businesses in Scotland.

The backlog of 12 million items in delivery offices across the country will take most of the week to clear, the Royal Mail predicted. It includes hundreds of useless tickets for the Scottish Coca-Cola League Cup Final yesterday.

The end of the worst postal strike in Scotland followed two mass meetings in Edinburgh and Glasgow yesterday when nearly 2,500 postal workers voted overwhelmingly to support an agreement between Royal Mail managers and union officials. The 14-point plan includes the promise of a nationwide review of arrangements for the provision of delivery services. Local talks will be held to re-examine delivery structures at the Portobello office in Edinburgh where the dispute began.

John Mackay, Royal Mail's general manager for Scotland and Northern Ireland, welcomed the decision to return to work and gave a "cast iron" guarantee that Christmas post would not be affected. John Keggie, a union official, described the deal as "a superb agreement".

Party boy in drug death

A BOY aged 15 found dead early yesterday after a party is believed to have been killed by a drug overdose.

Christopher Mitchell, 15, was one of about 30 people at a party in Blyth, Northumberland, on Saturday night. A post-mortem examination yesterday showed that he died from heart failure. Police were awaiting the results of further tests but sources said his death was thought to have been drug-related.

Christopher, in his last year at Blyth Ridley County High School, is the eleventh youngster in the area to die from drug abuse in the past three years. Four young people died within a month of each other earlier this year.

800,000 homes in England lie empty

By Nigel Williamson, Whitehall Correspondent

A COUNCIL house in south London has been empty for almost 33 years while some elegant houses in Regent's Park, designed by John Nash and owned by the Crown Estate, have been vacant for up to seven according to a report on England's empty homes.

The properties are some of the worst examples of the 800,000 empty homes, an increase of more than 100,000 since the housing charity Shelter conducted a landmark survey in 1982.

Most of the empty homes are in private ownership, but there has been an increase in the number of homes being kept empty by government departments.

The worst offender is the Ministry of Defence, which has 13,000 empty properties, almost one in five of its stock. Government departments now own 17,000 empty homes, up from 15,000 in 1982.

Antony Fletcher, chairman of the Empty Homes Agency and the author of the report, *Homes Still Wasted*, said: "From graffiti on the street to statements in the House, no one is in favour of keeping homes empty. But despite this overwhelming agreement we just can't get rid of them."

Conservative hopes rise for big tax cuts

Continued from page 1

financing is being used to pay for existing investment plans, and not merely to supplement spending allocations. The availability of funds from this source suggests talk of only £3 billion worth of tax cuts may be over-cautious.

This amount could be raised at a stroke, simply by halving the Government's £6 billion contingency reserve laid aside for next year. There is up to another £1 billion thought to be available because the measure of inflation used by the Government has turned out much lower than expected. The sale of the Housing Corporation's loan book could raise another £1 billion. On top of this, a fierce public spending round will have found additional savings.

Even without the political football of a windfall tax on the privatised utilities, the Government may be able to find up to £8 billion of savings, have up to £1 billion to plough back into health and education, and also finance tax cuts of £5 billion.

John Redwood, the former Cabinet minister, calls for such a reduction in *The Times* today, saying that "drastic action" is needed to win back supporters.

A cut in the spending control total of £7 billion would be enough for Mr Major to fulfil his aim, restated at Guildhall last week, of reducing public debt as a percentage of gross domestic product to 40 per cent. In a Budget which has to balance political popularity with the approval of the financial markets, this would be another presentational gain.

If the Chancellor has money available for large tax cuts, Mr Clarke could both cut the standard rate of tax by one penny and double the 20p lower tax band. Alternatively, he could raise personal allowances, more valuable to the much-coveted voters of Middle England.

Classroom Old Masters

Continued from page 1

the country's artistic traditions. They would also help local drama and music centres and thus further strengthen links with schools. Close attention would be paid to spotting young artistic talent and to ensuring that every child was exposed to a full range of artistic endeavours.

The public would be able to tap into Britain's artistic treasure-house simply by using computer screens at their local library or museum. A huge computer network linking schools, libraries, art galleries and museums is planned to make the vision of an arts renaissance a reality.

National Lottery money, channelled through the Millennium Commission, could be used in helping to pay for the computer links and the vast new database that would be needed, although much of the infrastructure is being laid now by private firms cabling the country for the information superhighway.

The Gleneagles January Sale.

After Turkey and Christmas pudding, a Carrot.

After the excesses of Christmas, Gleneagles will be shedding quite a few pounds.

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Nairobi gang chases couple

British diplomat shot in the neck by car robbers

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

A BRITISH diplomat was shot in the neck by car thieves after a chase through the streets of Nairobi. It was the fourth armed attack on British diplomatic staff in the Kenyan capital this year.

Graeme Gibson, a second secretary in the High Commission, defied armed car thieves who ordered him out of his Land Rover Discovery after following him on Friday evening. The British High Commissioner, Simon Hemans, said Mr Gibson, who was driving home from a reception, took a circuitous route to see whether he was being followed.

Despite advice not to resist such thieves, Mr Gibson tried to outrun his assailants in a chase through Nairobi's potholed streets. He was eventually forced off the road by the robbers, who were driving a stolen Peugeot, and crashed into a gate. The thieves then opened fire on the diplomat, hitting him in the neck.

Mr Hemans said: "They suddenly overtook him, and pulled in front of him; one man leapt out and fired straight at him. Then the car sped off, and he was left wounded in his car."

Mr Gibson was recovering in a Kenyan hospital yesterday. His wife Pamela was at his side and he was in a stable condition. Mr Gibson, 43, who has two teenage daughters, has worked in Nairobi in the commission's commercial department for a year, promoting trading links between Britain and Kenya.

He joined the Foreign Office in 1971 and has served in several other African and European countries. He became a second secretary, a middle-ranking diplomatic position, in 1990.

The shooting was the second assault on a diplomat in Kenya's capital this month. The Indian ambassador and his wife were seriously injured when they were attacked at their home in the Muthaiga suburb. Earlier this year the wife of another British diplomat was shot in the leg when she drove through a carjacking, and two other Discoveries used by embassy employees have been stolen by armed robbers in the past three months.

The four-wheel-drive Discovery has become the favourite prey for car-jackers in Kenya, who are believed to repaint them and sell them locally or export them.

Mr Hemans said: "We should try not to drive around in expensive vehicles so that we protect ourselves; this will help the police to protect us." His own Discovery has been locked in a garage in recent months and replaced with "a more anonymous car" for his personal use.

He said: "This is not an anti-foreigner campaign; it's a general phenomenon at the moment, but of course we are concerned." He had spoken to senior police officers and was satisfied that they were doing enough to deal with the problem.

Mr Hemans added that the police had found the car that the assailants has been driving. "It seems that they had a traffic accident as part of their getaway, and they abandoned the vehicle, so the police are examining that and are also able to interview a number of people who witnessed the original attack, the traffic accident and the attackers' dispersal."

Drivers at greatest risk on busy streets

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

THE crime that has become known as car-jacking first appeared in Britain in August 1992, when a woman in Finchley, north London, was held at knifepoint by two men when she stopped at traffic lights.

An AA spokesman said: "Perhaps the worst area for car-jacking is along the A40 and nearby roads in Shepherds Bush, west London. That is the car-jacking capital."

The BBC headquarters is in nearby White City and recently there were several incidents in which corporation staff were car-jacked and robbed as they left their offices, which are close to one of London's tougher council estates.

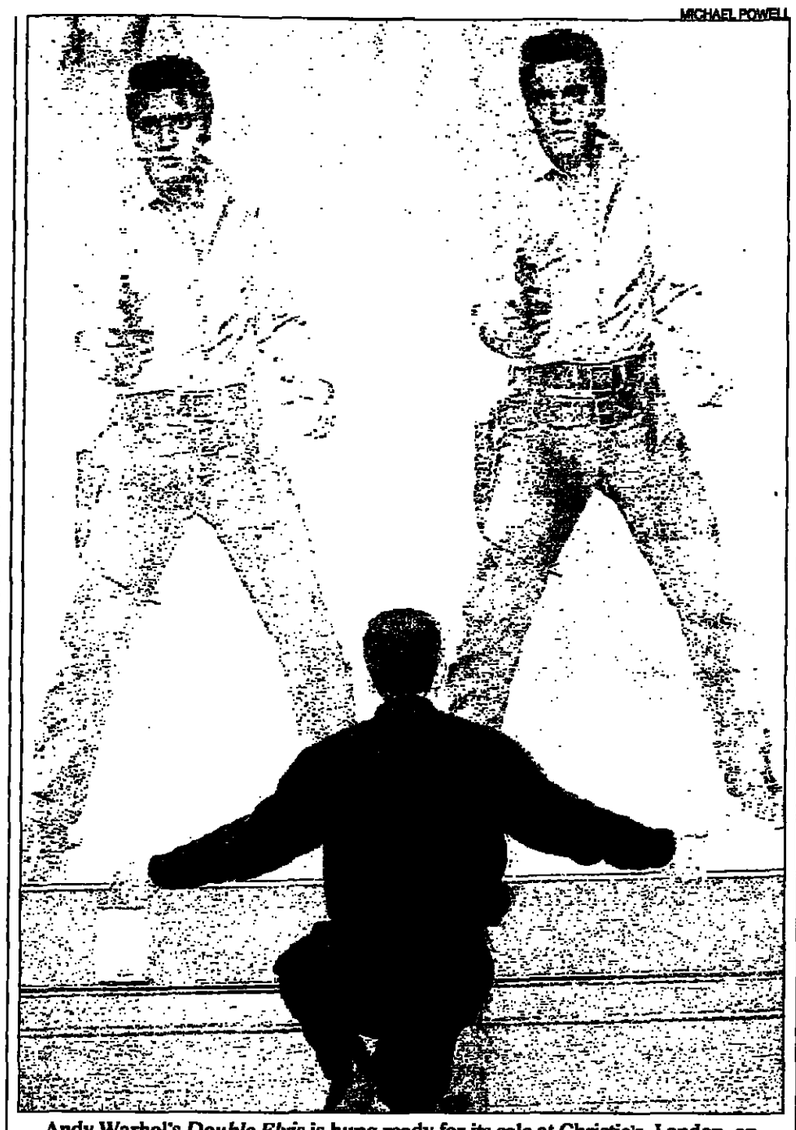
But the crime has become a problem worldwide. The Foreign Office is studying details of the Nairobi case before considering whether new guidelines should be issued to holidaymakers. A spokesman said: "Guidelines are already in place to cover people travelling to Africa. Robberies do take place and people should take care, be vigilant and alert.

"We have asked for a report on the case involving the diplomat. There is no clear indication whether they were after this particular make of vehicle."

He added: "One has to weigh up the odds whether we should continue to use Land Rover Discoveries, which are very useful in Kenya. We will be looking closely at this incident, but we feel at the moment the guidelines are adequate."

☐ In South Africa, well-organised syndicates have become increasingly brutal in their efforts to steal vehicles. In Johannesburg hijackings average about 30 a day.

Tourists are advised to take tour buses when visiting townships, such as Soweto, as these have a good safety record. When hiring a car, tourists can ask for advice on which areas to avoid.



MICHAEL POWELL

Andy Warhol's *Double Elvis* is hung ready for its sale at Christie's, London, on Thursday. Warhol's tribute, created in 1963, is expected to make up to £380,000

Wife accused of murder found dead in prison

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A WOMAN accused of stabbing her husband to death after discovering that he was having an affair has been found dead in prison, where she was on remand.

Claire Bosley, 34, who had been charged with the murder of her husband Barry, 42, during an argument last week at their home, is believed to have killed herself.

Mrs Bosley was remanded by magistrates at Aldershot, Hampshire, on Saturday but later in the day was found on a lavatory floor in the reception area at Holloway prison, north London. Ambulance staff were unable to revive Mrs Bosley, who is believed to have choked to death on tissue paper.

A post-mortem examination is expected to be held today. The couple's son Thomas, 8, was being comforted by relatives.

Mr Bosley, of Tadley, Hampshire, a former worker at the Atomic Weapons Establishment near by at Aldermaston, underwent two kidney transplants seven years ago and survived with the help of a dialysis machine. He retired on medical grounds more than ten years ago.

Mrs Bosley, a secretary, is believed to have discovered that her husband had been having a relationship with a neighbour in the close-knit community where they had lived since 1983. She is thought to have attacked him with a knife as their son slept. She was was arrested at her parents' home in Thatcham, Berkshire, on Thursday after the body of her husband was discovered in a pool of blood at the Bosleys' three-bedroomed house. Police were called to the house shortly after 6am after a 999 call and had to break down the door.

Prayers were offered for Mr Bosley at the parish church of St Paul's before news of his wife's death emerged. The Rev Martin Nockels said: "We remembered the family and the staff and pupils at Bishopswood Junior School, which the boy attends. The whole community is saddened by this tragedy."

David Loosen, a neighbour of the family, said: "She used to go to work and he was home all day. I used to speak to him when he took his son to school. He was very pleasant. No one would have thought something like this could happen to them."

Mrs Bosley was due to appear again before Basingstoke magistrates on December 4. A police spokesman said: "We are not seeking anyone else in connection with Mr Bosley's murder. The cause of Mrs Bosley's death is being investigated. It is being treated as non-suspicious and it will be the subject of a coroner's inquest."

Byron letters reflect torment of marriage rift

BY LEYLA LINTON

LETTERS that cast new light on Lord Byron's acrimonious and scandalous split from his wife Annabella in 1816 are expected to fetch up to £45,000 at auction next month. The archive, previously unseen in its entirety by scholars, is regarded by experts as the most important information on Byron's marriage to have been uncovered for years.

The painful correspondence between the bisexual and licentious Byron, his wife, the niece of Lady Melbourne, and their various lawyers and mediators reveals the couple's attempts to come to some agreement without the embarrassment of going to court.

Byron married Annabella, a 22-year-old heiress, on January 2, 1815, after a long and hesitant courtship. Within a year their daughter Ada was born. Shortly afterwards the marriage foundered amid rumours of Byron's incestuous relationship with his half-sister Augusta. His debts were also accumulating. Lady Byron made disclosures to a physician, Dr Baillie, who advised her that the poet was insane — the official reason for her leaving him and returning to live with her parents.

In one of the letters being offered for sale by Sotheby's on December 18, Byron regrets the mutual misunderstandings which had arisen "in this cursed business which blisters all it touches". In another, to his cousin Robert Wilmot, his intermediary, written chiefly in the third person, Byron declares that he considers himself "no further bound by any project of separation submitted to Ld. B's inspection than not to make use of Lady B's imputations — should the subject become that of discussion in a court of laww (sic)" and that he had "acceded to the principle of a separation . . . subject to the advice of his friends and advisers".

Byron's wife, in a letter to her adviser, Colonel Sir Francis Doyle, refers to a letter in which Byron appeared to consider himself the injured party and writes of it: "It is the most skilful specimen of profound dissimulation."

Dr Peter Beal, of Sotheby's said: "This archive is the most important biographical source relating to Byron to have come to light and to have been offered for sale for very many years. It relates to one of the most crucial, most consequential and most scandalous episodes in his life."



Byron: Annabella left him after a year

West hopes to attend daughter's funeral

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

ROSEMARY WEST is expected to apply to the governor of Durham jail for permission to attend the funeral of her daughter Heather, who was one of her victims.

Heather, her oldest daughter, was 16 when she disappeared in 1987. Her funeral has not been held yet because her sister Mae, 22, wanted to await the outcome of their mother's trial.

Heather's remains were the first to be found when police dug up the patio of the family home at 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester, in February 1994, and are stored in the forensic pathology department at Cardiff Royal Infirmary.

Leo Goatley, West's solicitor, said: "We will be looking into the possibility of Rosemary attending her daughter's funeral but I think it will be very difficult.

"We had an acquittal in mind and the family wanted to attend the funeral together. Mae is a good girl and she is supportive of her mother."

The nine other girls and young women that Rosemary West was convicted last week of murdering have already been laid to rest. Her legal team is drafting the grounds for an appeal.

Letters, page 19

Ambassador Princess wins praise of envoys

FROM ALAN HAMILTON IN BUENOS AIRES

THE Princess of Wales was flying home last night at the end of her first foreign foray since declaring in her *Panorama* interview last week that she wanted an ambassadorial role. British and Argentinian diplomats are satisfied that her presence went some way towards oiling the wheels of a full return to normal relations between the two countries.

They were also relieved that her four-day visit passed off without any major demonstration over sovereignty of the Falkland Islands.

Claims that the Princess was undertaking a near-private working visit to raise the profile of the Association for the Prevention of Infantile Paralysis, a local medical charity, were soon exposed as a sham when the charity disclosed it had been chosen by the Argentine Government as a vehicle for the Princess's visit. The association's profile has been raised but 100 out of 450 tickets for a charity fund-raising dinner went unsold even after they were halved in price.

Susana Duranona de Vila Echague, president of the charity, also disclosed that part of the profits of the dinner would be required to pay the Princess's £5,000 first-class return air fare from London. This system is not uncommon and has been used to lure the Princess in the past.

Ordinary Argentinians seemed only mildly interested in the Princess's presence. She was whisked at speed through seven hospitals and clinics over three days. Crowds were thin but media coverage was not. Commentators viewed her as a celebrity rather than a serious ambassador. In a predominantly Catholic country, some have adopted a high moral tone. "Perhaps in view of her confession of infidelity, Argentina was not the most sensible choice of testing ground to promote her quest to be an international goodwill ambassador for Britain," the English-language *Buenos Aires Herald* said yesterday.

The visit was useful for President Carlos Menem, who was undoubtedly the prime mover. Some diplomats say privately that his motive in inviting her was to show his voters that the British were now so well-disposed towards Argentina that the question of Falklands sovereignty could soon be back on the negotiating table. The notion is vigorously denied by Britain.



The Princess with her police outriders before leaving Argentina yesterday

Cult marks court victory with tea party

BY EMMA WILKINS

A MOTHER who won the right to bring up her three-year-old son in a free-love religious commune celebrated her victory at a tea party yesterday with other members of the group and their children.

The woman, who can not be named to protect the identity of her son, said the three years of legal battle had caused heartache and grief. But she is now planning to continue her missionary work with the group, called The Family, while bringing up her child.

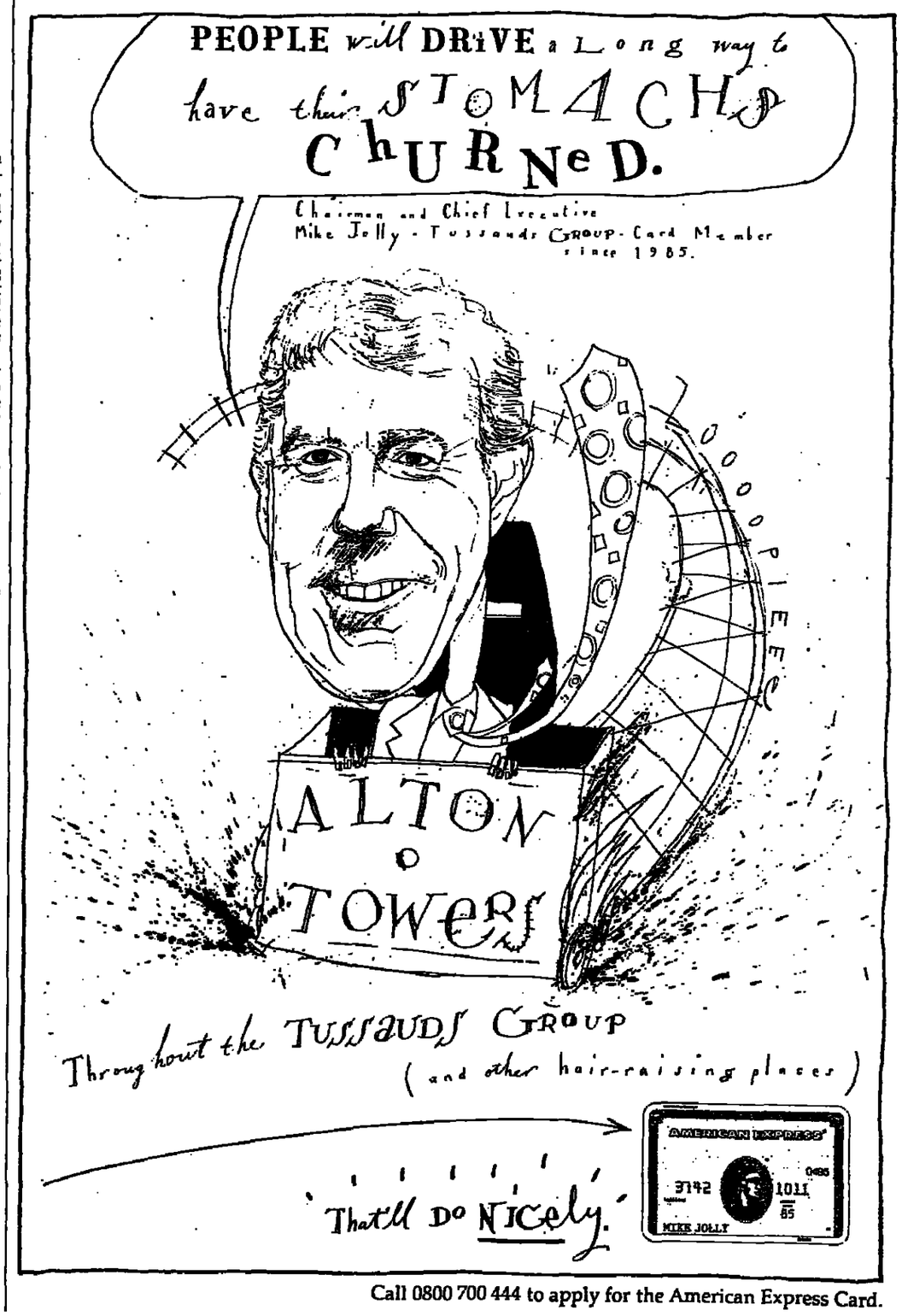
The mother and son attended a party with cakes and glasses of wine for the adults, a spokeswoman for The Family said yesterday. The pair live in a commune with 20 other children, aged between one and sixteen, and their parents. The child's grandmother had sought at the High Court in London to bring up the child at her home in Kenya. But, following the longest wardship hearing to be held at the High Court, Lord Justice Ward decided the child should remain with his mother.

The 27-year-old woman said yesterday: "On hearing the judge's final decision I was overjoyed and filled with a tremendous sense of relief. After years of heartache, mistrust, misunderstanding and grief, it is finally over. I feel free now to be able to live my life with my son, who is very special to me."

She said she hoped to work out a good relationship between her mother and her son. "I hope in time that my mother will come to know and accept my life in The Family and come to know her grandson in his own right according to the life we lead."

Rachel Scott, a spokeswoman for The Family, said: "Whatever the decision, it would have had an impact on not just the child in question, but the other children in the group. I have 12 children of my own and eight of them still live with us. If the judge had decided that one child could not be brought up in The Family then it could have affected all the others as well."

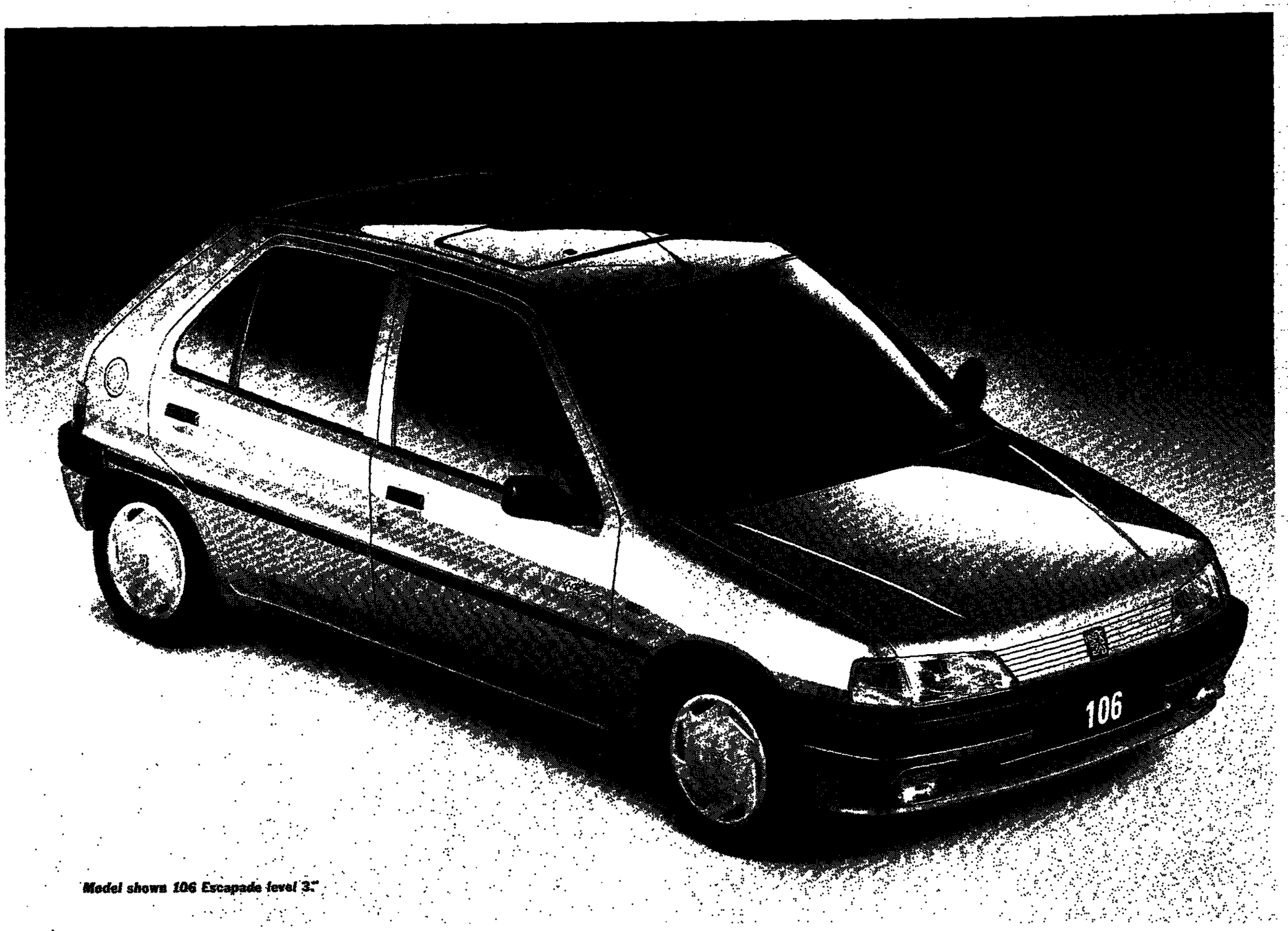
Under Lord Justice Ward's ruling, the boy remains a ward of court and must have regular access to his grandmother, 58. He and his mother must live within the court's jurisdiction so that his progress can be regularly monitored.



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صفحة من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

Times Christmas Appeal: Special unit provides home from home for young sufferers

Give cancer victims like Jessica the gift of life

Today *The Times* launches its Christmas appeal, this year on behalf of the Children's Cancer Unit of the Royal Marsden Hospital. The hospital, with sites in Sutton, south London, and in Chelsea, is one of Europe's leading cancer hospitals. Children's cancer centres were established in the 1970s to concentrate the specialised services required to diagnose and treat these rare disorders. They were a recognition that cancer is not only much rarer among children than among adults but that the recovery rate is much higher. Three years ago a new purpose-built unit was opened in Sutton, replacing a ward opened in 1973. The Wolfson Children's Cancer Unit treats up to 100 of the 1,200 children who develop cancer every year and aims to encourage a homely environment for the children and their families in which they are not subject to traditional hospital disciplines.



SIMON WALKER

Alan, Jessica and Jackie Houghton on one of Jessica's quarterly visits to the Royal Marsden Hospital at the weekend for continuing tests

BY JOHN YOUNG

ALAN and Jackie Houghton missed Christmas last year. At 9pm on Christmas Eve their daughter Jessica, aged 14 months, was admitted to the Royal Marsden Hospital in Sutton, Surrey, suffering from acute myeloid leukaemia. A year later she is back home, apparently in full remission.

Jessica is an engaging, friendly child with a broad smile. Her hair, which fell out during chemotherapy, has regrown in a reddish-blonde mop, and if all continues to go well she will be among the three out of five children cured of cancer today.

Mr Houghton, 35, and his wife, 30, come from the Wirrall in Cheshire and now live in Roffey, West Sussex. They have two other daughters, Emma, 13, and Rebecca, 6. Mr Houghton, a former van driver turned landscape gardener, gave up working when Jessica became ill, although Mrs Houghton continues to work part-time as a barmaid.

For the first year of her life Jessica appeared to be healthy. Then her parents noticed that she would wake up in the morning with bruises on her arms and legs which quickly spread. "Normally you would expect a 14-month-old to bruise herself here and there, but these weren't ordinary bruises," Mrs Houghton said. "Also she started developing nosebleeds and sometimes went very pale."

On December 22 Jessica was diagnosed at a hospital in Crawley as suffering from leukaemia. "At the time one doctor after another came in and looked into her eyes and we knew then that something was seriously wrong," Mrs Houghton said. "There were lots of tears because at that stage we thought we were going to lose her. I just felt numb but Alan was worse because his mother died from cancer."

From Crawley, Jessica was sent to St George's Hospital in Tooting, south London, and two days later to the Royal Marsden. There she was fitted with a Hickman line to administer drugs directly into the chest instead of by repeated injections.

"She quickly became used to it," Mr Houghton said. "It became almost part of her, but I felt as though someone had kicked me in the stomach or banged my head against a wall."

During chemotherapy Jessica lost all her hair and a lot of weight. According to her parents she took it all in her stride. "At her age she probably didn't notice too much, but it hurt us dreadfully."

Mrs Houghton recalled that when her sister travelled from the Lake District to see Jessica "it nearly broke her heart". For the first four months Jessica's parents took it in turns to stay with her, at first for three or four nights at a time, then on alternate days, which they found less of a strain. They said that other parents in the same predicament were a great help and comfort.



Mrs Houghton said: "We made a lot of friends among them and we have kept in touch. But it put a lot of strain on our marriage. We went through a very bad patch, but things are a lot better now. The other girls took it badly, particularly Emma, who was old enough to understand how serious it was."

"Everyone was very nice," Mr Houghton said. "It's not really like a hospital, there is a family atmosphere and everyone is on first-name terms. From the start we were reassured that it was not our fault, that we must not blame ourselves and that it was going to turn our lives upside down."

One of the worst moments came in March when Jessica was taken into intensive care suffering from a fungal infection of the lungs and windpipe, the result of chemotherapy. She also suffered from diarrhoea and vomiting.

"At about the same time my father died of a stroke, which was another blow," Mrs Houghton said. "But he lived just long enough to hear that there was hope for Jessica. He gave a victory sign and died about half an hour later. I think he was just hanging on to hear the good news."

By the beginning of the summer Jessica had recovered enough to be allowed home and several of the Royal Marsden nurses went to her christening. "She started to settle down and looked better every day," Mrs Houghton said. "Now she goes in once every three months for tests.

"So far she is in remission, but we have been warned that the cancer can return any time, so the nightmare has not gone away. By the time she is ten, if there has been no recurrence there will be a 99 per cent chance that she is free of the disease. But in the meantime every time she gets a little bruise we worry."

When Mr Houghton left his job it meant a big drop in income, but his bank was very helpful and the council suspended rent and council tax payments. Friends rallied round and customers of the Fitzalan Arms, where Mrs Houghton works, raised more than £300 for their travel.

This year the family will have two Christmases — one at home and one with their relatives in the Wirrall to make up for last year. Yesterday they attended a party at Harrods in London, a strong supporter of children's cancer treatment.

Next year Mr Houghton will undertake a sponsored walk from London to Brighton to raise funds for research. Despite more children being cured, money is urgently needed for research and treatment, which is why the *Times* Christmas Appeal is for the Royal Marsden Hospital.

Leading article, page 19

Yes, I want to help

I enclose a cheque / postal order (payable to the Royal Marsden Children's Cancer Unit) for £ .....

Or, please debit my Visa / Mastercard / Amex / Diners Club card

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Fireman stabbed on call-out

A fireman was stabbed when a gang of youths attacked his engine and crew after they were called out to a motorcycle fire in Newcastle upon Tyne. Doctors told Carl Latimer, a Tyne and Wear Station Officer, that he may need surgery for nerve damage to his right arm.

Mr Latimer, 34, said he was stabbed after going to help one of his crew, who was being attacked by four youths.

A 15-year-old youth has been charged with a wounding offence and will appear in court on December 20.

The home leg

The bidders who paid £5,750 last week for a German telegraph message, requesting a spare tin leg for the captured air ace Douglas Bader, are believed to be the family of a pilot who was on the mission with Bader when he baled out over enemy territory.

Rave arrests

Ten people were charged with possession of drugs after more than 86 arrests at a mass "rave" party. About 3,500 people attended the event at three venues in Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. Officers seized Ecstasy, amphetamine sulphate and cannabis.

Rink poisoning

More than 40 people, most of them children, were treated for breathing problems after ammonia fumes from an ice rink's cooling system escaped during an ice-hockey match in Inverness. Three adults and 21 children were detained overnight in hospital.

Rock island line

Adrian Ryan, 33, a former seaman of Waterlooville, Hampshire, has won an order to supply more than 10 million sticks of rock a year to the Canary Islands. The rock will be made in Bognor Regis with the name of each island running through it.

THE TIMES

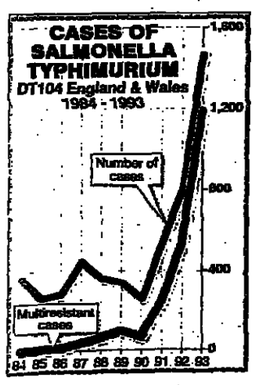
We apologise to readers in England to a reference to a cut-price offer for *The Sunday Times* which was included in error in some editions on Saturday.

Bug risk prompts call for drug curb

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR scientists responsible for protecting public health want a ban on the use of new antibiotics in animals because of fears about the rise of resistant "super-bugs" infecting humans.

Scientists at the Public Health Laboratory Service, which monitors patterns of disease through its network of 53 laboratories, say that unless some antibiotics are reserved for human use alone, the population could be left defenceless against drug-resistant bacteria. There has been a sharp rise in diseases caused by drug-resistant bacteria in recent years. The incidence of *Salmonella typhimurium* type 104, which causes food poisoning and is resistant to eight antibiotics, rose ten-fold between 1990 and 1993 after remaining level for the previous decade. Other resistant organisms include gram-negative *Serratia*, which causes septicaemia in the vulnerable, and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, which causes blood infection.



Brian Duerden, deputy director of the service, said: "There is a risk that we will lose valuable antibiotics in the treatment of humans because of overuse in animals". There is acute concern at the use of quinolones, the newest class of antibiotics, in animals, he said. They have not been superseded by more effective drugs since being developed in the 1970s. "There is a need to ensure that agents that are very valuable in human medicine aren't lost, and some need to be restricted to humans."

Mice may prove BSE link to man

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

EVIDENCE of a link between "mad cow" disease (BSE) and a similar incurable brain condition in humans could be available within two years, scientists say.

Laboratory mice have been injected with material from the brains of people who died of Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease (CJD) to see if the animals will develop the pattern of brain damage characteristic of bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

If such a pattern were found, it would indicate that the humans from whom the brain tissue came had themselves been infected by BSE, possibly through eating meat or handling cattle feed which was similarly contaminated.

Robert Will, consultant neurologist at Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, said: "This work is not being done in the expectation of getting such a result, but because we have a responsibility to try everything we can to find out if there is a link."

The brain material being used in the experiment has been taken from two of the four dairy farmers who have died of CJD in the past few years, from two other contemporary cases and from two older victims who developed CJD before BSE existed.

Strain-typing tests have already established that recent cases of spongiform encephalopathy in domestic cats and zoo animals were almost certainly caused by eating BSE-infected meat or pet food.

A woman who has died in a Manchester hospital, after giving birth while in a coma, is believed to be the latest victim of Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease. Michelle Bowen, 29, died on Saturday after falling into a coma at Manchester Royal Infirmary six weeks ago. Her baby, Anthony, who was delivered on November 2, is in a stable condition. Mrs Bowen and her husband, Anthony, of Manchester, also had two daughters. Mrs Bowen worked in a butcher's shop as a teenager. CJD cannot be confirmed until brain samples are analysed.

Wine, women and doctors who know

MEDICAL BRIEFING

THE public should take heed of their doctors' personal approach to health: the GPs' actions are likely to provide a clue to the importance of the latest precautions being advocated by proselytisers of healthy living.

Even before recent research confirmed the advantages of two to four glasses of red wine a day, this message had been accepted by doctors. Doctors were among the first to give up cigarettes, and they were prepared to take a daily half-aspirin to preserve coronary arteries.

The advantages for women in taking HRT are now well established. Women doctors are nearly five times more likely to be taking HRT than are their lay patients. The tragedy is that they, and their male colleagues, frequently fail to persuade patients to follow this example. A survey, funded by the Government, conducted by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and published in the *BMJ*, questioned 1,550 women doctors who qualified between 1952 and 1976. Of those aged 45 to 65, 45.7 per cent had used hormone replacement therapy, more than 70 per cent took it for at least five years, and more than 50 per cent for at least ten years.

In contrast, Medical Research Council figures show that in 1989 only 9 per cent of women had HRT prescribed by GPs. A more recent survey said that only 7 per cent aged 40 to 69 took HRT. If women want to avoid the fate of Myra Hindley — who suffered a spontaneous fracture of the hip while attending a keep-fit class in Durham jail — they would be well advised to take the advice of their doctor and, if the GP is a woman, follow her example.

The advantages of HRT extend beyond protecting against brittle bones, the loss of bone density in osteoporosis. The evidence is overwhelming in favour of hormone therapy in middle age as a means of preventing osteoporosis, when combined with adequate calcium and exercise in moderation, not to excess, in youth.

HRT also has a cardioprotective effect which may prove to be even more important than its influence on bone density. Ovulating women have a built-in advantage over men as their hormones usually keep their coronary arteries healthy so long as the ovaries are producing adequate amounts of oestrogen. After the menopause, their coronary arteries become as vulnerable as any man's. However, HRT preserves this protection. Women with established coronary arterial disease but who then start on HRT have an 80 per cent reduction in mortality over ten years.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD



General Synod to be questioned about guidance for bishops

Rector challenges Church silence on clergy 'blacklist'

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE General Synod will be questioned tomorrow about the existence of a "blacklist" of clergy considered dangerous or unfit to be employed.

The so-called Lambeth List, which is allegedly held by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, is understood to divide clergy into three categories, from those who must be avoided at all costs to those over whom caution must be exercised. It can be consulted by bishops appointing clergy in their diocese.

Once on it, a clergyman or woman is rarely if ever removed, according to the Rev Stephen Trott, a newly elected member of the synod.

"The list is maintained by Lambeth Palace and names can apparently be put on it by any bishop for any reason whatever," Mr Trott said.

He is to ask Philip Mawer, secretary-general of the synod, whether the list is statutory and what categories it is divided into. He also wants to know whether those on the list are made aware of it and what rights of appeal exist, as well as who is responsible for maintaining the list and adding names to it.

Mr Trott, rector of Pitsford with Boughton, Northamptonshire, was one of three clergy elected to represent the Peterborough diocese and comes from the traditional wing of the Church. He said: "It is a blacklist. I got involved because of Kit Chalcraft, who has been put on the list and who received a letter from the Bishop of Norwich, the Right Rev Peter Nott, telling him he was on it."

Mr Chalcraft was sacked from his Norfolk group of parishes for wanting to marry a third time. "He is in category C, which is to urge caution to anyone considering employing him," Mr Trott said. "I think there is a category which means do not touch this one with a bargepole, and I suspect there is another category for those with criminal convictions, and possibly one for those regarded as dangerous because of their views.

"Certainly there ought to be some central reference point in the Church for bishops to use when they are considering appointments, but there ought to be some judicial process for those put on it to appeal to come off. If it were on a computer it would come under the Data Protection Act, so I imagine it is written in quill pen and kept in a bottom drawer."

A spokeswoman for Lambeth Palace said the existence of the list was not a secret but that clergy were told of it only if they were on the list. She said it was possible to have a name removed.

"It is a caution list. The purpose is to inform bishops of clergy who have been subject to a formal process of discipline under the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1963, and of clergy who are under pastoral discipline by their bishops."

After the new synod session is opened by the Queen tomorrow, there will be a discussion on the Turnbull report which recommends a radical change in Church structure, with a new central council to be chaired by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Synod members, many of whom won their place in the quinquennial elections earlier this year, will also debate the controversial report on the family which recommended dropping use of the phrase "living in sin", and a proposal to limit the amount of time served by church wardens.

JOHN POTTER



The Rev Stephen Trott, who says the list is unjust

I should be forgiven, says priest in sex row

BY EMMA WILKINS

AN ANGLICAN priest who resigned after admitting sexual misconduct with members of his congregation criticised the Church of England last night for failing to forgive his sins.

Christopher Brain, 38, who ran New Age evangelical services in Sheffield, said senior members of the Church of England should be pleased with his confession and repentance. "I would have thought that the thing they would want to see is someone who is repentant and wants to change."

Mr Brain confessed that he had gained sexual gratification from intimate healing sessions with up to 20 young women in his congregation.

"Most of the time if I was involved sexually it was after a long period of developing a close relationship with that person," he said during BBC1's *Everyman* programme last night. "I did get gratification. The gratification I was after was not sexual although there was sexual gratification."

Mr Brain, whose activities were disclosed last August after an investigation by the Diocese of Sheffield, has already been stripped of his preaching licence. His resignation from Holy Orders came on Thursday.

The Archdeacon of Sheffield, the Venerable Stephen Lowe, denied that the Church had turned its back on Mr Brain and questioned whether he had shown true repentance. He said: "I am glad he has resigned, although he has taken his time. Even now he is trying to push responsibility on others. I am not prepared for him to run away from something which is his responsibility."

Women who took part in the programme told of their experiences. One said: "He would talk about how we were discovering a post-modern definition of sexuality within the church. But it is language covering up what was going on — one bloke getting his rocks off with about 40 women."

Another said he told her that "through him, he would teach me to discover my potential as a woman. I would come into sexual wholeness through allowing him to help me into it. It escalated from something that I found acceptable to something by the end that I find unbelievable now that I was doing — that he was doing."

Howard supports glasshouse for young

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SERIOUS negotiations are under way between the Ministry of Defence and the Home Office to send young civilian offenders to military prison.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, and Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, believe that the tough regime at the Army's corrective training centre at Colchester, Essex, could be an ideal environment to persuade youngsters to go straight. It is known as the "glasshouse"

No final decision has been made, but a senior MoD official said that Mr Portillo believed offenders could benefit from being sent to a jail filled with "highly motivated" soldiers, although there are potential legal difficulties over civilians in a prison that is subject to military law.

Soldiers are sent to Colchester for a range of offences, including breaches of discipline, theft, absconding with regimental funds and assault. Those facing discharge from the Army learn trade skills, such as bricklaying. Others are subject to refresher infantry training.

The MoD official said: "Civilian offenders would be in the same jail as highly motivated soldiers who are due to return to their regiments. This could have a beneficial effect."

But he added: "Do we put the civilians under military command, or do we have a civilian governor, and to what extent can a military regime be applied to civilian offenders?"

The jail has 148 inmates — some of them women in a separate section — out of a possible total capacity of 210. From April 1 next year, the number of places at Colchester is due to be increased to 325 to receive other offenders from the Royal Navy and the RAF.

People's court dominated by the middle class

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE small claims "people's court" — set up to offer quick and cheap justice — is dominated by middle-class professionals and managers pursuing claims against each other, official research shows.

The courts are often regarded with awe and ignorance, and their workload is believed to be only "the tip of a very large iceberg of unmet legal need", say findings by Professor John Baldwin, of Birmingham University's Institute of Judicial Administration.

"If the small claims procedures have been devised to enhance the rights of the poor, then they cannot be said to have achieved that objective," the professor said.

The research was part of a larger project funded jointly by the Lord Chancellor's Department, the Office of Fair Trading and the Economic and Social Research Council. The courts are to be expanded by the Lord Chancellor, with the claims limit raised from £1,000 to £3,000 in January.

The study found widespread ignorance about the procedures of the small claims court. Leaflets from the Lord Chancellor's Department had failed to "plug the gap of ignorance." More than a third of the litigants had never seen them. The professor said: "Small claims hearings are not accurately depicted as the rich against poor or the powerful against the powerless. The genuinely 'poor' made few appearances at such hearings, and when they did, it was typically to face landlords or moneylenders."

Litigants "were to a large extent middle-class individuals suing other middle-class individuals".

At present, 87,000 disputes are handled in the small claims courts a year. This could be doubled or trebled with the new upper limit. The research showed that those who used the courts were highly satisfied with the outcome and could cope well without lawyers.

The courts were found to be sympathetic towards the consumer, demolishing the myth that the individual was likely to get a raw deal against traders and businesses.

Most people took no advice at all before the hearing, and less than 40 per cent used a lawyer at any stage. Professor Baldwin said that many would benefit from legal advice before the hearing.

Lawyers attack Bill on evidence disclosure

A COALITION of lawyers and civil rights groups is urging the Government not to "tip the scales of justice too far" against the defendant with its plans for pre-trial disclosure of evidence (Frances Gibb writes). The proposals, contained in the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Bill, receive their second reading in the Lords today.

The Bar Council, the Law Society, Justice and Liberty say that the Bill goes too far in lightening the burden of disclosure on the prosecution. The Bill aims first to tackle the concerns of prosecuting authorities that there is a wide and heavy duty on them to make limitless disclosure of evidence before trial. It also aimsto oblige the defence to disclose the outline of its case before trial, to stop the so-called "ambush defence" late in proceedings.

Peter Goldsmith, QC, Bar chairman, said the proposals "leave too much discretion to the prosecution to decide what to disclose and too little power to the defence to obtain more".

Law Report, page 35



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Banks voice scepticism

Rising student debt forces Government into rushed sell-off

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE amount of money owed in student loans is forecast to quadruple to £4 billion in under three years, according to unpublished government documents obtained by *The Times*. If present trends continue, £500 million of that money is never likely to be recovered.

The size of the projected deficit explains the urgency of the Government's move to privatise as much as possible of its Student Loans Company business. The Education (Student Loans) Bill receives its second reading in Parliament today, less than two weeks after being announced in the Queen's Speech, to allow privatised provision to be available for the next academic year.

Observers believe Government expenditure on higher education is "pushing against the ceiling" and ministers are desperate to stop the drain on the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement.

A draft of the tender document for banks or building societies thinking of running a privatised service discloses government predictions that there will be 1.7 million student loan accounts by the end of the 1997-98 academic year.

It forecasts loan take-up will "increase considerably" from the present 54 per cent of students to 80 per cent, as the value of the maintenance grant drops. Grant levels were frozen two years ago.

The document discloses: "The objective . . . is to transfer a substantial part of this student lending activity and the associated risks into the private sector."

A National Audit Office report on the Student Loans Company last week said that one in eight student loans, representing £142 million of the £1 billion currently lent, was unlikely ever to be recovered. The tender arrangements being proposed would commit the Government only to bailing out privatised loan providers if the irrecoverable amount from a particular year exceeded 20 per cent of the total lent that year.

Iain Crawford, a member of the London School of Economics education-funding research group, said he was "saddened and perplexed" by the Government's privatisation scheme. He predicted it would fail to attract private-sector finance.

Dr Crawford believes that student loan repayments should be deducted at source by employers with National Insurance contributions.

He said: "Having served on the Conservative Political Centre's National Policy Group, which unanimously recommended the use of the National Insurance mechanism to the Conservative Party, I think my colleagues on that group will be as surprised and angry as I am."

Christopher Johnson, former chief economic adviser to Lloyds Bank, said: "The student loan scheme announced in the Queen's Speech makes me despair."

He added: "The Government is trying to cut public expenditure — not to increase education spending, but to make tax cuts. Higher education spending on tuition fees and student maintenance is pushing against the ceiling, so the Government has at last decided the only way out is to privatise it." He said the current Bill was a "rehash" of the scheme he had advised Lloyds to have nothing to do with in 1989.

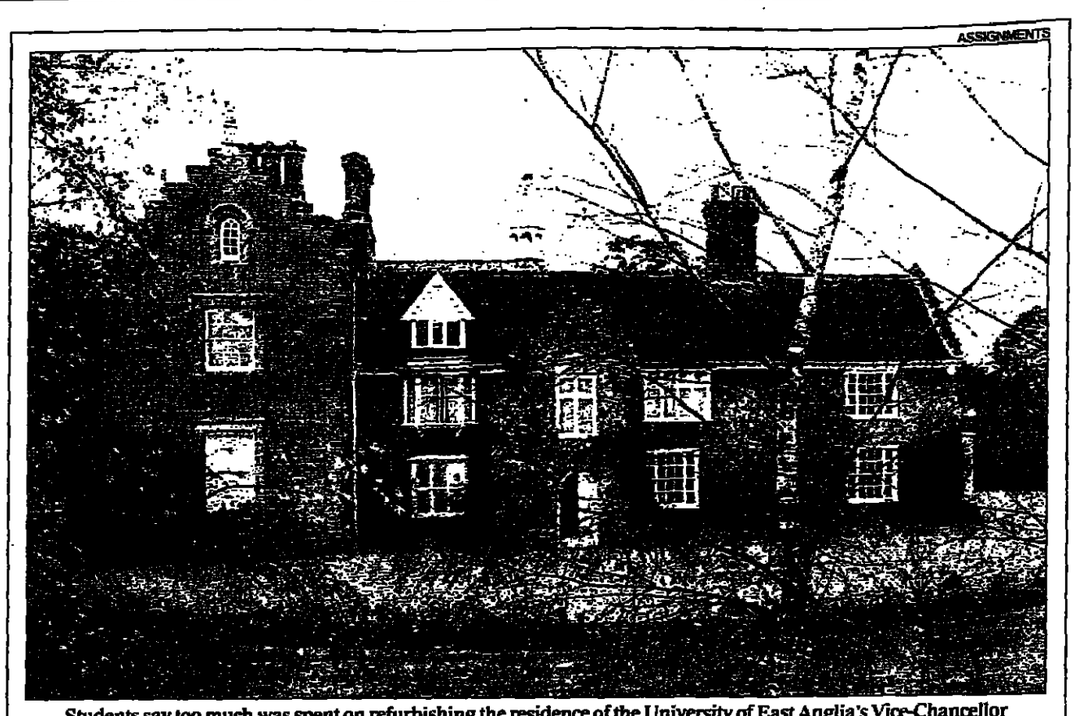
Banks and building societies are wary of showing interest in the scheme. *The Times* has learnt that neither the Woolwich nor the Abbey National is interested in joining.

Lloyds refused to comment. The NatWest and Nationwide said they were still talking to the Government about possible involvement.

A Barclays spokesman said: "There are many risks and we are asking the Government for more details because it is not clear how this scheme can be run commercially."

A Midland Bank spokesman said: "This is a high-risk venture and we see considerable potential problems in managing this book. It is not the most attractive proposition in the world."

Bryan Davies, Labour's higher education spokesman, said: "Banks have refused to co-operate in the past and they look set to do so again. We are extremely sceptical they will want to be involved."



Students say too much was spent on refurbishing the residence of the University of East Anglia's Vice-Chancellor

Students protest at cost of Esteve-Coll's des res

BY STEPHEN FARRELL

DAME Elizabeth Esteve-Coll, who attracted controversy as director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, has become involved in a dispute in her new job. Students claim the University of East Anglia spent £100,000 refurbishing her rent-free Vice-Chancellor's residence while putting up their own rents.

Dame Elizabeth, 57, took up the position in October after seven years as V&A director. The university acknowledges refurbishing her residence, a 17th-century farmhouse in Hethersett, near Norwich, before she moved in but denies spending £100,000. Sources claim the figure is nearer £25,000.

Students have used the issue in their campaign against rent increases of up to 13.7 per cent. Alison Ravenhall, the union women's officer, said: "The university says it has no money but they have refurbished the building because she is a bit arty-farty and wanted it done her way. This has created a lot of resentment." She said the Vice-Chancellor's residence had 24-hour security "and she has a chef and catering staff while our food is a bit crap".

Miss Ravenhall said she had met Dame Elizabeth, who had "seemed pleasant but she was not on my level. She just seemed out of touch."

When she took over running the V&A, supporters said she revitalised the museum and made it more accessible. But some disliked her commercial approach, one former director calling her a "vulgar populist". Her restructuring programme, with job losses, was criticised. However, the saving for the nation of Canova's *The Three Graces* by the V&A and National Galleries of Scotland was welcomed.

Yesterday, the university defended the refurbishment and rejected the £100,000 claim. A spokeswoman said: "It is a building of historic importance. An old building like that does need work.

"The Vice-Chancellor does so much entertaining there that it is another part of the university."



Dame Elizabeth at the university yesterday

Minister asks good sports to serve in Africa

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

HUNDREDS of British sportsmen may soon be heading for a new challenge in Africa under a government scheme. Ministers want to harness the energies and talents of footballers and cricketers who have failed to make the top grade at home.

Potential recruits between the ages of 18 and 23 are to be invited to join a new form of volunteer work. Instead of building bridges or designing water courses for poverty-stricken villages, they will encourage sport in far-flung regions in South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe.

Officials at the National Heritage Department are drawing up outline plans to recruit the new sporting ambassadors from lower division clubs and county third teams. John Major is believed to be enthusiastic about the project, which follows an initiative to push sport in schools.

The Prime Minister, who supports Chelsea FC and Surrey cricket club, sees it as a way of fostering goodwill in the tip of Africa. Ministers are convinced that sport represents a universal language which can reap rich returns for a small outlay in resources and equipment.

The idea was hatched during a conversation between Iain Sproat, the Sport Minister, and his South African counterpart on a recent visit. The minister was being shown township pitches badly damaged by the climate.

Volunteers could improve the cricket and soccer pitches before setting up organised games for children and teenagers. A senior Whitehall source said: "It is a kind of voluntary service overseas, but it gets completely away from the idea of the open-toed sandal brigade.

"It is all based on the theory that sport is a universal language that is readily understood by 14 to 15-year-old black youngsters with little formal education."

The source emphasised that the scheme had no connection with the British charity Voluntary Service Overseas, which exists to give assistance to Third World countries.

There are fears that a call for sport missionaries could prove an attractive rival to VSO. A spokesman for VSO said: "This is the first we have heard of this initiative. As always, we are still looking for volunteers to go out. There is a great demand in many parts of the world, right across all our projects overseas."



Sproat: saw the need for more resources

Getty wants proof before buying

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE J. Paul Getty Museum in Malibu, California, which has antagonised its rivals by consistently outbidding them for the world's greatest art treasures, is to announce that it will no longer buy antiquities unless they have a documented provenance.

The news will send shockwaves through the auction houses and among antiquities dealers who until now have had to answer few questions about the origins of their offerings to the world's richest museum. In future they will have to provide details of the country of origin, relevant export licences and proof that they have not been stolen from archaeological sites.

The change of policy will, however, delight the directors of rival museums who claim that the Getty's enormous purchasing power has distorted the art market and unintentionally fuelled the market in stolen antiquities. Spiralling prices for ancient sculpture and other artefacts have led to looting of archaeological sites across the world.

Artefact smuggling is also being increasingly linked with the drug trade, especially in South and Central America.

The decision by the Getty will bring it into line with other principal museums, including the British Museum, and with the Unesco convention on the movement of cultural property, ratified by the American Government more than a decade ago. It will not, however, prevent the museum buying ancient art as many objects have been in circulation for over a century and a general cut-off date of 1972 for the documented presence of a piece in a public or private collection is widely accepted as a compromise by countries acceding to the Unesco convention.

The move has been welcomed by Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn, who has addressed the problem in the House of Lords and in the media. It will also be applauded by the Archaeological Institute of America, the organisation most concerned with classical antiquities, and other bodies in America which have fought to have the Unesco convention accepted in the private sector.

Jones sings duet with one voice

THE former choirboy Aled Jones is to accompany himself in a duet that will make recording history. He recorded one part of the specially written song while still a boy soprano, and is to record the second today as a baritone.

By singing with himself in two different voices, Jones, 25, will accomplish a feat never achieved before. The song was specially written for the singer while he was enjoying childhood success by the BBC disc jockey Chris Stuart. The first recording remained unheard for nearly eight years as Jones's voice changed. "My voice is settling down nicely and I'm enjoying my singing again," Aled said.

"I knew Chris had kept the tape of *What Can You Tell Me?* It's a lovely song and I always hoped that one day we could finish it." The song will be heard for the first time on Radio 2 on Christmas Day.

Mr Stuart said: "It's about innocence and experience, a rock ballad in which the child is very much the father of the man. It occurred to me that if we recorded Aled singing the boy's part and kept the tape on a high shelf in a darkened room, we could dig it out when Aled's voice had developed and combine the two."

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GORDON MILNE

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Foreign Ministers begin search for 'Euro-Med' pact

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor

ISLAMIC terrorism, illegal immigration and the population explosion around the shores of the Mediterranean will preoccupy 27 Foreign Ministers from Europe, North Africa and the Middle East who meet in Spain today to propose a new zone of political and economic co-operation on Europe's southern flank.

The two-day Euro-Med conference, which opens in Barcelona, will bring together the European Union, the Maghreb countries — minus Libya — Israel and all its immediate neighbours in an attempt to usher in a new Helsinki process for one of the world's least stable regions.

The aim is boost European investment in the region, set up a high-level political exchange to replace the defunct Euro-Arab dialogue and build on the Middle East peace process by increasing economic links between Israel and its neighbours and bringing Israel and Syria into the same negotiating forum.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, will underline Britain's support for a new European focus on its southern neighbours, despite misgivings when the idea was mooted by Spain, France and Italy. The Algerian civil war, the threat of the spread of Islamic radicalism and the quickening pace of political change in the Middle East has convinced Britain that the time has come for a comprehensive reassessment of security and trade in the region. The outcome, it is hoped, may change North-South relationships as radically as East-West ties were changed by the 1975 Helsinki accords.



Rifkind: will emphasise support from Britain

The EU is proposing to double its funds for the Mediterranean region over the next five years. That aid will not be at the expense of EU help for Eastern Europe. Britain, however, wants the bulk of the effort to go into boosting trade and Western investment, which is low. Officials hope that the talks may persuade Arab participants to make the investment climate more hospitable to foreign companies.

Although regional security will be a main topic, the omission of Libya will complicate any attempt to develop a comprehensive package for North Africa. Britain and France have vetoed any invitation to Libya until Tripoli hands over the two men suspected of masterminding the Lockerbie bombing for trial in Scotland or the United States. Arab countries are urging Britain to accept a compromise and say that isolating Colonel Muammar Gaddafi will only strengthen radical Islamists in Libya.

Arab countries, especially Syria, are looking to Barcelona for warmer trade and political relations with Europe. There will be no formal negotiations on the Middle East peace process, although officials are hoping that Syrians and Israelis will use informal contacts to get the peace talks going again.

Like the Helsinki conference, the meeting will broach the question of human rights, but only in general terms. The sweeping rise of Islamic fundamentalism will not be on the agenda, although the Europeans will want to know how Arab governments propose to tackle that challenge. Some Arab countries, especially Egypt, are expected to repeat their concern to Mr Rifkind at the presence in London of Muslim activists.

Last week Cairo intensified its pressure on Britain by naming two men in Britain it holds responsible for organising terrorism: Abdel al-Bari, said to have been granted asylum, and Yassir al-Serri. Mr al-Serri has been sentenced to death in his absence for alleged involvement in the attempted assassination of Atef Sidki, the Egyptian Prime Minister, two years ago.

The Europeans are hoping that the conference will lead to better co-operation with North Africa on drug smuggling, illegal immigration, terrorism and other issues. But, as one British official said last week, "We will have to feel our way."

☐ **Jerusalem:** Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, told the Cabinet yesterday that Ehud Barak, the Foreign Minister, would meet Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, in Barcelona today during the conference.

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Law chief calls off Juan Carlos inquiry

From Edward Owen in Madrid

CARLOS GRANADOS, the Spanish Attorney-General, said at the weekend that he was closing his investigation into allegations that King Juan Carlos had been involved in shady financial transactions involving a former friend at the time of the Gulf War. He added, however, that he might forward the file to the national court judge who is considering if slander had been committed against the head of state.

The decision by Señor Granados comes after the claim in a recently published book, *El Saqueo de España* (The Looting of Spain), that the King, 57, is the victim of a blackmail attempt by two financiers facing fraud charges. One of them is Javier de la Rosa, a Catalan financier who is on bail after the collapse of a Barcelona company. He was also the agent in Spain for the London-based Kuwaiti Investment Office (Kio) at the time of the Gulf War.

The book's two authors claim the businessmen had threatened to implicate the King in their previous business deals unless they were treated favourably. Señor de la Rosa has repeatedly claimed that King Juan Carlos received a payment from Kio of about $100 million (£64 million) for political services when Kuwait was lobbying to expel the invading Iraqis.

A forged letter, reproduced in the Spanish press, was sent to Sheikh Ali Khalifa al-Athbi al-Sabah, the then Kuwait Finance Minister, by Manuel Prado, a business associate of Señor de la Rosa and a friend of the King, on October 10, 1990.

The letter, bearing the address of the royal palace, thanked the minister for his "latest and very sizeable contribution" that helped "in clarifying the delicate political matters connected with the USA and the use of their [air] bases". Señor Prado has now told the Attorney-General that "the Crown is not implicated in anything and never has been".



Yekaterina Gordeyeva, the Russian Olympic champion figure skater, pays her last respects to her husband and fellow skating champion, Sergei Grinkov, at his funeral in a Moscow ice hockey stadium at the weekend. Grinkov, 28, died of a heart attack as he practised for a "Stars on Ice" show in Lake Placid, New York

French unions raise stakes as strikes continue

From Susan Bell in Paris

ONE of France's worst rail strikes since the 1950s continued yesterday, leaving most of the country paralysed for the third consecutive day.

Further strikes are planned for today and tomorrow. Two of the country's most powerful unions, Force Ouvrière and the Communist-led CGT, vowed at the weekend to step up pressure on Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, to retreat on plans to overhaul the welfare system.

The proposed social security cuts are designed to reduce the country's £20 billion deficit and thus to enable France to qualify for European monetary union. The cuts have particularly angered public employees, who would be obliged to work two-and-a-half years longer before retiring.

Union leaders have threatened that tomorrow's strike will be even more devastating than that on Friday, when cities were paralysed and more than 300,000 people took to the streets in protest. M Juppé has said that it would take two million demonstrators to persuade him to back down.

Among the country's five million public sector employees, public transport workers are proving to be the most militant. Although the Paris Metro was operating normally yesterday, commuter and regional services were at a virtual standstill. Only one in four high-speed TGV trains were in action, and the Eurostar service between Paris and London was halved.

Public reaction to M Juppé's reforms has been mixed. Polls show most voters approve, but more than 80 per cent also have some sympathy with the strikers. Although he has taken a firm stand so far, M Juppé's future is in the balance. If he fails to push through the reforms, he is unlikely to survive much longer as Prime Minister.

To add to his Government's trials, university students and teachers have also been staging sit-ins and boycotting classes to protest against a lack of public funding and overcrowding.

As the protests move into their seventh week, François Bayrou, the Education Minister, is facing an increasingly united front. His emergency rescue plan was judged "insufficent" at a meeting of university heads last week and students have announced that they will hold mass demonstrations on Thursday.



Juppé: political future hanging in balance

About 30,000 women also marched through Paris on Saturday to defend abortion and contraception laws which they believe are threatened by the moral Right. Abortion facilities in France have come under threat recently as pro-life activists have mounted an increasing number of attacks on clinics.

Russian politician murdered

Moscow: A liberal member of Russia's parliament was murdered yesterday while on a campaign trip for next month's general election.

Sergei Markidonov was shot in the head and a bodyguard received head wounds while they were on a pre-election tour in the eastern Siberian town of Petrovsk-Zabaikalsky. Russian radio quoted an Interior Ministry source as saying the bodyguard had shot Mr Markidonov, possibly after a row in a hotel room, and tried to kill himself.

Mr Markidonov was the fourth deputy from the State Duma to be killed since the last election in December 1993. The other deaths were linked to gang murders and violent business rivalries.

Mr Markidonov was elected in 1993 for the reformist Russia's Choice party, but later crossed to a pro-Government centrist group called Stability.

The Communist Party, one of 43 parties and blocs contesting the December 17 election, denounced the authorities. "No matter how Markidonov was killed, the whole thing has a touch of politics," Viktor Ilyushin, a senior member of the Communist group in the Duma, said. *(Reuter)*



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Srebrenica refugee back from dead tells of survival in wilderness

FROM STACY SULLIVAN
IN SARAJEVO

THE sunken eyes and swollen feet of Besir Johic bear witness to some of the worst atrocities of the Bosnian war. Mr Johic is a survivor of Srebrenica, where an estimated 6,000 to 8,000 Muslims disappeared this summer when the Bosnian Serb army overran the eastern enclave.

Mr Johic was one of those unaccounted for, but last week, four months after the fall of Srebrenica, he and seven others slipped across the Bosnian Serb front line, having survived for 131 days in the forests, eating snails, nettles and fruit. Yesterday he was reunited with his wife, mother and son, all of whom had believed he was dead. His brother, Omar, survived but another brother was killed.

As Mr Johic recounted his escapes — hearing the screams of thousands of other refugees dying, seeing the digging of mass graves and fearing that he would starve to death — he kept his composure.

It was the question about his future that brought tears to his eyes. Although the Balkan leaders were in Dayton, Ohio, agreeing to end the war just as he was reunited with his family, Mr Johic and those who escaped with him say the Dayton agreement will not change what happened and does not provide them with anywhere to go.

Mr Johic is from Cerska, a village near Srebrenica which was overrun in 1993 by the Bosnian Serb Army. He spent most of his four-month escape hiding in that village from Serb soldiers. "Cerska is a ghost town. The Muslim homes have all been burnt. There is nothing left."

In theory, the Dayton agreement provides for refugees and displaced people to return home, but Mr Johic says he has nowhere to go. "I would return home tomorrow if I could, but there is nothing left."

His journey began on July 11, two days before the Bosnian Serb Army overran Srebrenica. He said goodbye to his wife, hoping that the United Nations would be able to save the women and children. He joined a column of 15,000 refugees which stretched for six miles towards the government-held town of Kladanj.

He and the seven others struck out alone after an attack by Serb forces. While women and children were being evacuated from Srebrenica on July 13, the column of men was ambushed by the Bosnian Serbs as it neared Kamenica and split in half. Mr Johic, who was at the front of the column, escaped. He heard the screams of those behind him as the Serb forces attacked. As the shooting started, the column dispersed, blinded by smoke bombs. Mr Johic climbed a hill and found his injured brother. He carried his brother as he and six others made their way across a road and a river into the forest until they arrived in Cerska, the village where they had lived before being forced to flee Srebrenica.

There, in their home village, they took refuge in a mill for more than three months. They said they hid in the mill by day, as Serb soldiers patrolled the area, and foraged for food at night.

From Cerska, Mr Johic and the others tried to escape across Serb front lines several times and failed. But as the first snow started falling early this month, the men knew they had no choice. They could freeze or risk being killed in the escape.

They made their way to the mountains, then waited until dark and resumed their trek. When they finally reached a road, Mr Johic said, he still did not know where he was, but he found several empty cartons of locally produced Drina cigarettes. "That is when we thought we might have made it," he said. By then the clothes of all eight men had rotted.

"I would not let myself cry this morning, but my heart wanted to explode when I saw him," his mother said.

Karadzic predicts 'decades of blood'

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR, AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

SARAJEVO will become the Beirut of Europe if its Bosnian Serb inhabitants are forced to accept Muslim rule, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, said yesterday.

He also said that any attempt to arrest him for war crimes would jeopardise the final signing of the Bosnian peace agreement, due to take place in Paris early next month. Western soldiers would die if attempts were made to apprehend or detain him, he said.

His warnings came as Croatian forces continued the looting and burning of villages due to be handed back to the Serbs under the Dayton peace accord. A United Nations spokesman said UN forces saw about ten houses burning, and BBC television recorded Croat lorries being loaded with goods stolen from Serb-owned houses.

Television pictures showed palls of smoke rising above Mrkonjic Grad, the largest town due to revert to Serb control, and nearby Sipovo. After furniture and fittings were removed, the houses were set on fire; empty houses known to belong to Croats were left untouched.

"There may have been a peace agreement, but on the ground it hasn't changed people's attitudes," said Brigadier Richard Dannatt, UN commander for western Bosnia.

Dr Karadzic's warning of further bloodshed was made in separate television interviews as Serb inhabitants of Sarajevo demonstrated against the Dayton peace accord.

He told the BBC's *Breakfast with Frost* that Bosnian Serbs in the divided city would require special status. The Dayton plan had to be changed, because it had "created a new Beirut in Europe. It is going to bleed for decades". It was not a question of Serbs making concessions to a central government; it was a matter of the legitimate rights of those who were supposed to be handed over to the Muslim/Croat Federation.

"They would not accept any Muslim policeman or Muslim soldier to enter the Serbian part of the city for at least five years," he said.

He said he was ready to sign a peace treaty, but gave a warning that this would be impossible if he was threatened with arrest in Paris. He was the "legal and legitimate representative" of his people, and added: "It would be completely wrong because nobody can sign the final peace treaty except me, and if they want to arrest me, then how do they want to end this war?"

He vigorously denied that either he or General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb army commander, ordered a massacre at Srebrenica after the town fell to the Serbs. He said they had witnesses, and the UN forces who had noticed the whole operation "did not notice any irregularity".

A Bosnian government spokesman yesterday dismissed Dr Karadzic's forecast of intercommunal fighting if Sarajevo was reunited. Bosnia quietly marked its national day on Saturday with a presidential wreath-laying. In a low-key ceremony, President Izetbegovic laid yellow lilies at a memorial to the defenders of Sarajevo.

According to the Bosnian Serb news agency, Dr Karadzic told local commanders that the Serb army would maintain its position if the Dayton accord was not modified. And he said that the Bosnian Serb assembly in Pale would not accept Nato forces if they tried to "behave as a boss" when they arrived.

Meanwhile, President Clinton, who tonight launches an all-out campaign to persuade a hostile Congress to back the deployment of US troops in Bosnia, finds his task complicated by the deteriorating situation in Haiti, where 2,500 American servicemen are still on the ground.

In an address to the nation, Mr Clinton will emphasise the importance of sending 20,000 US troops to help Nato to enforce the peace agreement, but he will do so just as another of his much-vaunted foreign policy achievements is in danger of unravelling in America's own backyard.

President Aristide, who the US restored to power in Port-au-Prince 14 months ago, last week publicly suggested he might break his solemn promise to the Clinton Administration to step down when his term expires on February 7, as required by the constitution. The presidential election is due on December 17 and Mr Aristide's supporters are urging him to cancel it.

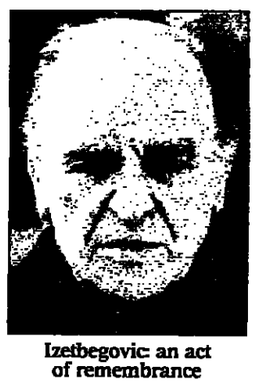
In a preview of his speech tonight, Mr Clinton gave a warning that, if US troops were not swiftly deployed in Bosnia, "the hard-won peace would be lost, the terrible slaughter would resume".

Mr Clinton will brief congressional leaders before leaving for London tomorrow night, and Bosnia is expected to dominate his meeting with John Major. On Saturday, he will visit Bosnia-bound US troops in Germany.

Delivering the official Republican response to Mr Clinton's radio address, Congressman Susan Molinari said that "our soldiers' burdens will be to protect new boundaries drawn with the blood of innocent Bosnian men, women and children".



Horses draw a tram through Sarajevo in celebration of 100 years of public transport in the city. The tram was beginning a regular service yesterday



Izetbegovic: an act of remembrance

Aspirant members face EU delays

BY GEORGE BROCK
EUROPEAN EDITOR

CENTRAL and Eastern European governments fear that Western Europe's enthusiasm for enlarging the European Union is cooling because it cannot cope with the problems involved.

Led by Germany and Britain, the EU has often hinted that negotiations to take the most advanced East European economies into the EU would start in two or three years' time and that new members would join in the early years of the next century.

However, the EU has bitten off more than it can chew in agreeing that over the next four years it will rewrite its constitution and budget, start a single currency, cut unemployment and open talks with prospective new members. The Union is formally committed eventually to taking 13 former Warsaw Pact states as members, but has never named dates. British officials believe that East European countries will succeed in the simpler task of joining Nato before they enter the EU.

Countries such as Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic are afraid that decisions on their applications are being crowded out. Jan Kulakowski, Poland's Ambassador to Brussels, said: "I have the impression that this is not the main question for the Union."

But last week EU governments did give the first concrete sign that their commitment to open the Union was waning, when Foreign Ministers killed off a plan to raise the quantities of East European food imported.

Embarrassed German officials explained later that their much weakened Foreign Ministry had been overruled by an Agriculture Ministry influenced by farmers who fear cheap food from the East.

Governments which welcomed the idea of reuniting Europe are now facing the practical consequences. Increasing the EU's membership from 15 to perhaps 25 means decision-making has to be streamlined; national governments are divided about how to do this.

Extending the common agricultural policy and subsidies received by Mediterranean states and Ireland to East Europe would cripple the EU budget, while vested interests would be hurt as small founding states lose leverage.

Central and East European Prime Ministers arriving at the EU summit in Madrid next month would like to nail down an agreement that their entry talks could start in 1998. But they fear the EU's diary may be too full.

Leading article, page 19

Nerve gas factories discovered in Serbia

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SERBIA has a chemical weapons programme, posing a threat to the whole region, according to evidence uncovered by a British military expert.

Traces of precursor agents for the nerve gas, Sarin, were discovered in a disused factory near Mostar in southern Bosnia three weeks ago by Major David Craig. Major Craig, who was one of the chemical weapons advisers in the Gulf War, found the traces of Sarin chemical agents in samples taken from the plant near Potoci, five miles north-east of Mostar.

The samples were analysed by the Swedish defence establishment, which confirmed that Sarin was made at Potoci.

According to former workers at the plant, interviewed by Granada *World In Action* in a documentary tonight, Serb soldiers dismantled the equipment in the factory over a period of three months leading up to the Bosnian war in April 1992. They also claimed that Sarin and mustard gas were produced elsewhere in Serbia.

Major Craig said: "I equally believe that Sarin, sulphur mustard, and possibly others are being produced at a factory at Lucani, and in Baric."

He said that, although there was no suggestion that the Bosnian Serbs used Sarin in Bosnia, there was some evidence that they used a psychotropic drug called BZ (Benactyzine).



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هكذا من الاصل

Most wanted man on run as Tigers fight for their lives

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN COLOMBO

THE most wanted man in Sri Lanka spent his 41st birthday on the run, a cyanide capsule tied on a black string round his neck in readiness for suicide rather than capture.

His military dictatorship on the northern Jaffna peninsula has collapsed, thousands of his young soldiers have scattered and his dream of an independent Tamil homeland, Eelam, is in ruins.

The fall of Jaffna City, Velupillai Prabhakaran's headquarters for five years, could come at any time. Troops are battling yard by yard for control of the town centre, where an unknown number of Tamil Tigers are fighting for their lives. Their only escape route has been blocked and a fierce attack on Friday and Saturday to help the breakout, using teargas against the troops, failed.

Mr Prabhakaran, the only leader the rebels have known, is a portly Hindu from a fishermen's caste. He may already be off the Jaffna peninsula; certainly his bunker in the northern city outskirts has been abandoned, like the court-houses, police stations, schools and all the other doomed creations of this formidable guerrilla leader.

He invented the Tigers and turned the force into one of the world's most proficient guerrilla groups. It would probably collapse without him. Tamils have few other leaders because Mr Prabhakaran had them killed, leaving them with a sense of vulnerability now that their main protectors have been scattered.

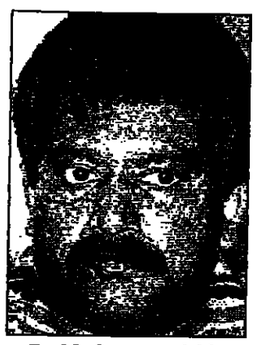
The Tigers are commemorating their leader's birthday as they always do, with Heroes' Week, a seven-day festival of fireworks and rebel songs being held in areas of the Jaffna peninsula and other parts of northern Sri Lanka still under Tiger control. Nobody expects Mr Prabhakaran to be taken alive, but India is nevertheless seeking his extradition for alleged involvement in the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, the former Prime Minister, in 1991.

The siege of Jaffna has shaken Sri Lanka's Tamils, who make up 12 per cent of the population. It is their traditional centre of culture and learning, although it has been reduced to rubble during the 12-year war and almost every volume in a vast Tamil library has been destroyed. The army's military success may impede, not assist, a political solution by further alienating Tamils. Many of them fear that the weakening of the Tigers will lessen the Government's resolve to honour its pledge of constitutional changes to guarantee significant autonomy to the North and East provinces, where most Tamils live.

All nine Tamil political parties are urging the Government to end the siege of Jaffna, aware that the prolonged campaign is widening the ethnic divide. Many Tamils see this as a Sinhalese victory over them. Sinhalese extremists, including Buddhist monks, have taken to the streets in celebration and see no reason any more why the Government should try to win over the Tamil people with political concessions.

The Government is struggling to contain the euphoria by explaining that this is a victory over the Tigers, not the Tamils.

Jaffna, at the heart of Tamil identity, is a ghost town, save for the Tigers who stayed for the final battle. The Government plans to install electricity, roads and running water to entice people back, but the chances are that few will return. The Tigers have ordered them not to, and most would in any case fear life under Sinhalese domination. Few have returned to islands west of the peninsula that were wrested from Tiger control earlier.



Prabhakaran: suicide rather than capture



Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma's opposition leader, waves to supporters outside her home in Rangoon yesterday. At meetings of the democracy movement that she leads, Daw Suu Kyi has described the military-sponsored convention reassembling tomorrow to draft a constitution as "totally unacceptable" and threatened a boycott

Nine die in cricket stadium collapse

FROM COOMI KAPOOR IN DELHI

NINE spectators were killed and 50 injured when the parapet wall of a stadium in the west Indian town of Nagpur collapsed yesterday during a one-day cricket match between India and New Zealand.

Five people died instantly when they fell more than 35ft. Fifteen people have serious head injuries.

Officials said a portion of the back wall on the second level of the eastern stand at the Vidarbha Cricket Association stadium collapsed as spectators were making their way out during the lunch interval. "It was a single-brick wall and so failed to support the weight," Rajive Tambhe, a municipal official, said.

About 40,000 spectators were watching the match. Most were unaware of the tragedy until after the game.

The match, the fifth in a one-day series, was won by New Zealand. "There would have been a riot if we had suspended play," an official said.

Love letters lift lid off Boston's glitterati

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A BUNDLE of love letters released in court papers during a legal clash between two of Boston's leading socialites has set tongues wagging. Bostonians have watched with astonishment as a millionaire oilman, who once skippered his yacht to victory in the America's Cup, fought his former mistress in the tawdry Boston Housing Court.

"Wild" Bill Koch sued to evict his former flame, Catherine de Castelbajac, from his $2.5 million (£1.6 million) flat over the Four Seasons Hotel. The legal proceedings have detailed a jet-set romance that tumbled in the space of months from transatlantic "sex mail" to accusations of extortion.

A playboy yachtsman who won the America's Cup in 1992, Mr Koch, 55, met Ms de Castelbajac, 42, in Paris in 1992. The California-born model had been married to a French marquis by whom she had two children. She and Mr Koch fell wildly in love.

Mr Koch now describes Ms de Castelbajac as a "professional seductress" who won his heart and then demanded $5 million to go quietly. But Ms de Castelbajac presents herself as the spurned lover and, to prove her contention, has relied on private correspondence that includes intimate love letters most uncharacteristic of Boston society.

"My poor nerve endings are already hungry. You are creating such a wanton woman," Ms de Castelbajac wrote from Paris in February 1993. "I can feel those kisses and every inch of my body misses you."

"I cannot describe how much I look forward to seeing you again," Mr Koch wrote back. "It is beyond calculation by the largest computers."

The relationship soured when Ms de Castelbajac left Paris and moved into Mr Koch's flat. Mr Koch testified that he started to get nervous when his mistress told friends that she planned to have his child. Finally he decided in April 1994 to marry the mother of his nine-year-old son.

Mr Koch complains that his former mistress continued to live extravagantly in his flat after they separated, in one day spending $1,980 in the gift shop, his lawyer told the court. The case is to go to the jury today.

Show of force by Chinese

Peking: China has staged a huge show of military force against what it sees as pro-independence forces on the island of Taiwan, which is to hold parliamentary elections on Saturday.

Chinese television gave prominent coverage to the combined manoeuvres by army, naval and air force units off southeastern Fujian province opposite Taiwan.

Kao Koong-lian, acting chairman of Taiwan's mainland affairs council, said: "In a nervous period like this, China really should not, and has no need to, create a tense atmosphere." An analyst in Peking said: "This muscle-flexing exercise is a clear signal to Taiwan for caution."

Shevardnadze pledges reform

Tbilisi: Eduard Shevardnadze was sworn in as President of Georgia and promised to continue reforms and restore the country's territorial integrity. The former Soviet Foreign Minister won 75 per cent of the vote in a November 5 election.

About 5,000 people braved violent winds in the Georgian capital to watch the ceremony at which Mr Shevardnadze promised to "reinforce democracy and protect citizen's rights". He said was ready to open talks with Abkhazia separatists who broke away from Georgia in 1993. *(AFP)*

Canadians axe US sitcoms

New York: The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is to axe US prime-time sitcoms such as *Central Park West* and spend the savings on domestic television production (James Bone writes).

The four cancelled US sitcoms came under attack in Canada earlier this year when the Government announced cuts to CBC, which many Canadians see as the glue that holds the country together.

Deng's reward

Hong Kong: Coins with the likeness of Deng Xiaoping, China's senior leader, will be issued by China's central bank next month, signalling the takeover of Hong Kong in 1997 (Jonathan Mirsky writes).

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Parachute bombs from rebel jets kill children in Kabul

FROM REUTER IN KABUL

REBEL jets bombed residential areas of Kabul yesterday, killing at least 35 people and wounding more than 140 in the heaviest air raid on the besieged Afghan capital in more than a year, Defence Ministry sources said.

A ministry official blamed rebel Islamic Taleban militia, who seek to topple President Burhanuddin Rabbani, for the 9.30 am attack. At least nine bombs were dropped by Su22 aircraft, none hitting a military target, he said.

A ministry statement also accused neighbouring Pakistan of responsibility, saying that it had strong evidence indicating Islamabad's technical and financial aid in repairing the Su-type jets that Taleban seized from the western town of Herat in August. Pakistan rejected the charge, saying that it had given no such assistance. "This is nonsense," a Pakistan Foreign Ministry official said.

"The Taleban used three Su22 bombers," the Afghan Defence Ministry official said. "They made two passes over the city 15 minutes apart."

At least 12 people died when one bomb destroyed three homes and severely damaged four others in the western suburb of Wazir Abad. Neighbours said the device was a 1,100lb parachute bomb that exploded in the air above the suburb. A similar bomb killed seven people in a home in central Qalai Fatullah suburb in a three-storey, mudbrick building, where neighbours said three families were living. The building collapsed.

Dozens of rescuers dug through the rubble but found only corpses, including the bodies of two infants. "This is the most barbaric war," a man cried as he watched the rescuers cover a two-year-old child dragged from the dust. "The Taleban are more cruel than Ghengis Khan. Even the Russians were not as bad as these people," he said.

"This bombing is the biggest crime," another resident, Najim Khan, said. "God will not forgive those who committed this."

Two other smaller parachute bombs exploded above the Supreme Court compound in Qalae Zaman Khan, east of the city. Witnesses said that seven people, most of them pedestrians, died there.

A passing car shielded a soldier, Najmuddin Sherzad, from the blast as he walked along the footpath. "Some of the dead people were waiting for a bus and others were just walking along like me," he said. "If the Taleban want to fight against us, they are welcome to attack us on the front line. Why do they bomb innocent civilians here?"

The parachute bombs are designed to explode about 90 feet above ground, spraying their target with shrapnel. One girl was killed by a cluster-bomb which landed beneath Maranjan Hill in an eastern suburb, while four other devices exploded harmlessly elsewhere.

Doctors in Kabul's four main hospitals said that they treated about 150 bomb victims, eight of whom died later. The air raid came after two nights of heavy fighting between the Taleban and government fighters.

Defence Ministry sources said government troops had taken several mountaintop positions overlooking the Taleban-held former prison of Pul-i-Charki, but conceded that they were not significant. Most of the recent fighting has concentrated on the prison, which lies about nine miles east of the city on the edge of the Kabul river plain. It was seized by Taleban on Wednesday. One Western analyst said that the air attack could be a response to recent Taleban setbacks, although he said it was hard to see any military logic in the raid.

The Taleban is attacking Kabul on at least four fronts in an attempt to capture the city. It has also imposed an energy blockade on Kabul in an apparent attempt to freeze the defenders into submission over the winter.

The Taleban has rejected the latest United Nations proposals for a multi-factional council to replace Mr Rabbani's Government and pledged to occupy Kabul by force.

Mandela savages de Klerk as 'joke'

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

PRESIDENT MANDELA has launched a blistering attack on his deputy, F.W. de Klerk, as their confrontation over prosecutions for apartheid-era crimes threatens to tear apart South Africa's fragile Government of national unity.

At the weekend a visibly angry Mr Mandela described Mr de Klerk, the Second Deputy President, as "a joke" after the latter called for the prosecution of senior African National Congress members for their role in the armed struggle against apartheid.

Mr de Klerk said "even-handedness" required that Joe Modise, the Defence Minister, his deputy, Ronnie Kasrils, and 75 other ANC members granted temporary immunity be prosecuted for ordering terrorist acts.

Mr Mandela hit back by accusing Mr de Klerk of caring only for whites. He said: "the tragedy is he is making jokes about very serious matters. I will decide who gets an indemnity."

His scathing criticism of Mr de Klerk comes against a backdrop of disquiet over the prosecution of General Magnus Malan, the former Defence Minister, and ten former security chiefs who are to appear in court this week on murder charges linked to hit-squad activities against political foes in the 1980s.

Under the interim constitution, indemnity for political crimes is meant to apply to both sides. However, this principle is seen as compromised by General Malan's arrest.

Indicating the passions the case has aroused, delegates at the National Party's regional conference in Pretoria at the weekend gave General Malan a standing ovation. Mr de Klerk is desperate to make amends after being accused of not doing enough to protect his own side. His party failed to secure indemnities for its operatives while ANC cadres received pardons.

At the same time, President Mandela is trying to juggle criticism by black supporters that he is too conciliatory towards whites with threats of a right-wing backlash.



One of the last photographs of Linda Sobek, an American model, taken in Los Angeles on November 8, a few days before she disappeared. Yesterday her family said that a body found in a shallow grave was hers. Police were led to the spot by Charles Rathbun, a photographer who said he accidentally killed her while demonstrating a manoeuvre with a car in which she was to model. He panicked and tried to conceal her death. *(AP)*

Scientists pin the blame for climate change on mankind

BY NIGEL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR

SCIENTISTS meeting in Madrid this week are expected to claim that the world is getting warmer, and that human activities are responsible. The claim is unlikely to go unchallenged.

The meeting, which begins today, brings together the scientific working group of the International Panel on Climatic Change. The group's draft report says that recent temperature rises cannot be explained away by natural variation and that there is a "detectable" human influence.

"For the first time we're saying that there is human influence on climate. In the past we've said we're not quite sure," says the panel's executive secretary, Narasimhan Sundararaman. "I don't think people are going to let that go without a challenge." Opposition is expected to come from oil industry lobbyists and from oil-producing nations — the burning of oil and coal has been targeted as a principal cause of global warming.

The report argues that greenhouse gas concentrations are continuing to rise, that recent years have been the warmest since at least 1860, and that the group's own ability to predict climate change through computer modelling has improved since 1990. "Emerging evidence points towards a detectable human influence on climate," says the draft report.

One problem the panel has to deal with is that temperatures have not risen nearly as fast as the original computer models predicted.

The report will be presented to an intergovernmental conference of the IPCC next month, together with reports on the impacts of warming and on solutions, which present a gloomy picture of rising sea levels, floods, droughts and desertification. The scientific group may be under pressure to produce the data to justify these headline-grabbing claims, but in reality is expected to predict an increase in temperature of between 1C and 3.5C by 2100, well below earlier figures.

Marxist survivors visit China

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

PRESIDENT Castro of Cuba and Do Muoi, General Secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party, are both to visit Peking this week for what some see as a summit of surviving Marxist regimes.

Peking has not announced any formal summit, but the visits of Mr Muoi and Señor Castro, whose countries used to be "in the same trench against American imperialism", overlap. Mr Muoi arrived yesterday and Señor Castro is due later in the week for a ten-day stay.

Cuba and Vietnam are only recent allies of China because both supported the Soviet Union in the Sino-Soviet dispute and China and Vietnam fought a brief border war in 1979. China normalised its relations with Vietnam in 1991 and with Cuba in 1993.

The only Marxist states not represented here this week will be North Korea, which is in a period of transition after the death of Kim Il Sung, and Laos.

The United States — which recently moved to establish diplomatic relations with Vietnam but maintains an economic embargo against Cuba and is experiencing strains in ties with Peking — will watch these events with interest.

A Western diplomat said: "It may be another move by Peking to demonstrate its independence from Western pressures."

Peres comes to defence of Shin Bet

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

SHIMON PERES, Israel's new Prime Minster, yesterday defended Shin Bet, the secret police, as suspicions mounted about the organisation's failure to prevent Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

Presiding over his first Cabinet meeting as Prime Minister, Mr Peres denied that Shin Bet had ever acted to advance the political objectives of any particular group. He also said the agency was one of the "cleanest" organisations in the country.

He was speaking after the Cabinet received a review from the defence establishment on security issues in the wake of the shooting of Rabin by a Jewish student, Yigal Amir. Shin Bet has been under attack since evidence emerged that the agency was told months before that Mr Amir, 25, had wanted to kill Rabin. Questions have also been raised about agents for Shin Bet, acting within Jewish extremist groups, who apparently failed to tip off the organisation about the assassination plot.

Police were meanwhile interrogating two rabbis suspected of telling Mr Amir and his brother Haggai, 27, that the killing was justified in religious law. One was identified as Rabbi Shmuel Dvir, from the West Bank settlement of Karmei Tsur. The second, unidentified, rabbi said he knew Mr Amir three years ago. A friend of Mr Amir has told the police that Mr Amir had sought rabbinical permission for the killing.

Conspiracy theorists feed on Rabin murder doubts

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THREE weeks after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the shooting at a Tel Aviv peace rally has already spawned as many conspiracy theories as the killing of President Kennedy.

The speculation, in which both left-wing and right-wing elements in the Shin Bet security service are accused of having an interest in Mr Rabin's death, has been exacerbated by the secret proceedings of the Commission of Inquiry which have been extensively, and often inaccurately, leaked since it opened on Sunday of last week.

Among the questions to which there has been no clear answer are: How did the assassin, Yigal Amir, get within point-blank range without being challenged? Why did Mr Rabin not wear a bullet-proof vest? Why was nothing done when a Shin Bet official told the police chief that the area around the steps Mr Rabin was descending needed protection? Where were the Israeli leader's bodyguards? Why did they not place themselves between Mr Rabin and the assassin, or fire a single shot at him?

The three-man Commission will also have to determine why Mr Rabin was given so little protection after death threats from the extreme Jewish Right and Islamic militants inflamed by Mossad's assassination of the Islamic Jihad chief, Fathi Shikaki, in Malta only days earlier.

Other unexplained elements include the absence of any ambulance to take him to hospital; the failure to inform the hospital in advance, so that neither a stretcher nor surgeons were waiting; why was the Shin Bet chief out of the country at the time of the much publicised rally; and why did the killer shout "it's only a blank" twice after shooting the Prime Minister.

The welter of claims about who might have been behind the killing have been whipped up by revelations about the connections between the ten right-wing Jews detained since the shooting and the security services.

The 25-year-old assassin may have been carrying a Shin Bet ID card. His friend, Avishai Raviv, founder of the extreme right-wing Eyal movement, had been a Shin Bet agent since his recruitment in 1987 under the right-wing Likud Government.

Mr Raviv was known by the unlikely Shin Bet cover name of "Champagne". No reason has been given why he was not arrested after Israeli television showed footage of him illegally training his group.



Yigal Amir: questions still surround assassin

The main competing theories are either that Mr Rabin was gunned down as part of a conspiracy nurtured by hardliners inside Shin Bet, egged on by right-wing rabbis, or that he was accidentally killed in a botched Shin Bet operation designed to discredit the Israeli Right.

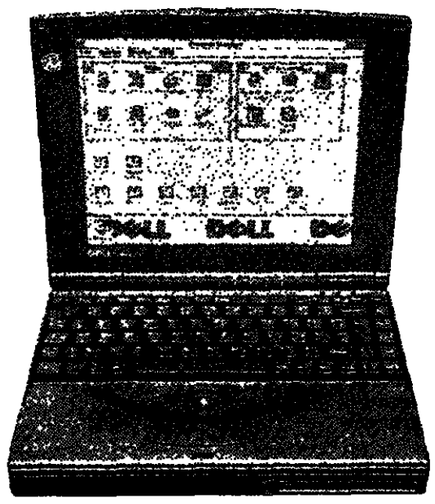
In support of the first contention, historian Michael Harsgor argued: "Somebody in the Shin Bet wanted this to happen. Somebody believed he could stop the peace process. Somebody allowed Raviv to incite and allowed Amir to act . . . Something here is very fishy. This was not a foul-up, there were too many things which went wrong."

Moshe Feiglin, leader of a right-wing settlers' group, put the opposite case — that Mr Rabin had been murdered by a Shin Bet *agent provocateur* who had been intended only to shoot blanks. "Leah Rabin said that a Shin Bet agent reassured her moments after the shooting, saying the shots fired were blanks. What caused them to be so certain?", he asked.

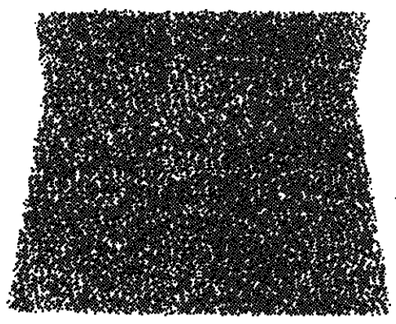
Mr Feiglin added: "A right-wing group immediately notified the media after the shooting — prior to the announcement of Rabin's death — saying it had 'missed this time'. The speed with which this announcement reached the media indicates it was prepared ahead of time. Who really stood behind this press release?"

☐ **Tomb protest:** Tens of thousands of Jews chanted prayers in Jerusalem yesterday in protest at the removal of tombs believed to be those of the Maccabees, who rebelled against Greek rule in the second century BC. *(Reuter)*

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Nun's bar gives spirits Buddhist twist

FROM PEREGRINE HODSON IN KYOTO

THE Buddhist nun behind the bar smiles and pulls a glass of draught Guinness. Above her head a statue of the Amida Buddha gazes serenely from a row of bottles — Jim Beam, Jack Daniels and Glenfiddich — and the scent of incense mingles with the smell of crushed lotus-root dumplings.

This is the Mikoan bar in Kyoto run by Myako Kudo, 35, a nun of the Pure Land sect of Buddhism. Ms Kudo practised as a nun for six years before deciding to take her Buddhism into the community. She opened the bar this year on April 8, the Buddha's birthday.

"My real wish has been fulfilled," she said. "It is stimulating and it is a religious service. I want the bar to be a temple, where people can talk about their problems over a drink or two."

Some sceptics reckon that Ms Kudo is using Buddhism to increase business, not the other way round, but her customers seem in excellent spirits. Ms Kudo pulls drinks and cooks a selection of organically grown delicacies helped by her 60-year-old mother.

Instead of the usual pile of soft-porn comics often found in Japanese bars, the counter is covered with a menagerie of porcelain cats, a basket of soft toy baby Buddhas (in yellow or brown), each wearing a tiny saffron robe and a 1,000 yen (£6.30) price tag. There is also a Buddhist bell for attracting Ms Kudo's attention when a customer needs another shot of bourbon or wants to pay the bill, described by Ms Kudo as the *Haikanryo*, the usual term for a religious offering. Ms Kudo plans to abolish the set price list so that people can pay what they wish.

The curious mixture of sacred and profane — enlightenment by the glass — may be just another clever hype, but Ms Kudo seems sincere. "Buddhism in Japan has lost touch with the people," she said. "In the old days, in the villages, people used to go to the priest to talk about their problems. Nowadays the monks are interested only in making money; they have forgotten the teaching of the Buddha."

Certainly, Japanese Buddhism has some profitable sidelines. Temples for *mizu-ko* — literally, water children — charge anything from 10,000 to 200,000 yen to say prayers for the souls of aborted children. In Japan, where women on average have several abortions, the temples do a brisk business. Funerals with the associated rituals and sales of prayer tablets are another lucrative source of income.

People can also buy talismans from their local temple to ward off car accidents and ensure success in the highly competitive school examinations. One monk in Kyoto's Daitokuji temple, called Ozeki, is employed by companies to lecture employees on "how to be good people" at 700,000 yen a time.

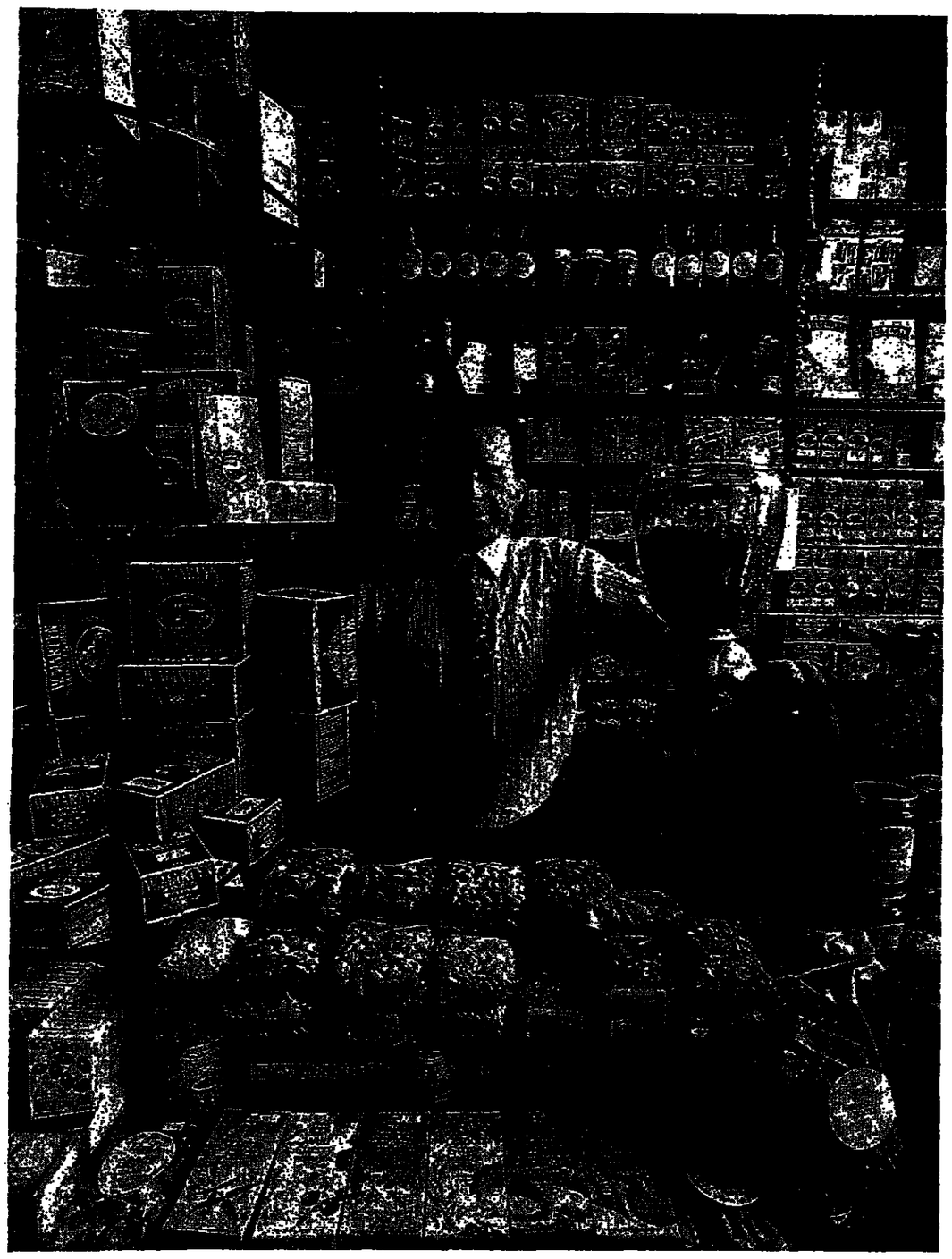
In modern Japan's rush towards material progress, even the Buddhist temples of Kyoto have caught the bug of consumerism, and in the widespread absence of spiritual values the bizarre cult of Aum becomes more comprehensible. The Government's proposed reform of the Religious Corporations Law, in response to the Aum outrage, will require religious bodies to disclose their financial assets. Predictably, Buddhist sects and temples throughout Japan are alarmed.

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MIDLAND

Should a bank charge a small business?



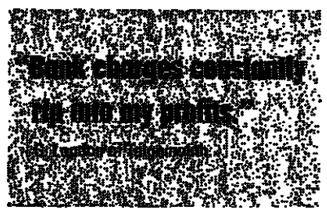
What you said:



"Banks should be helping us, not trying to destroy us." *H. Lilley of Lincoln*

"As a small business, we find the charges banks impose quite difficult to meet." *M. Cassidy of Blackburn*

"Banks have to make money somehow – better to do it through businesses than through individuals." *K. Miller of Aylesford*



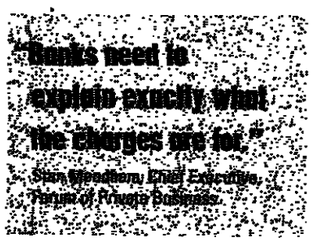
"It's the way that banks make their money – I wouldn't print their business cards for nothing." *M. Hinson of Wellingborough*

"I have yet to find a bank that will help a small business." *D. Clark of Weybridge*

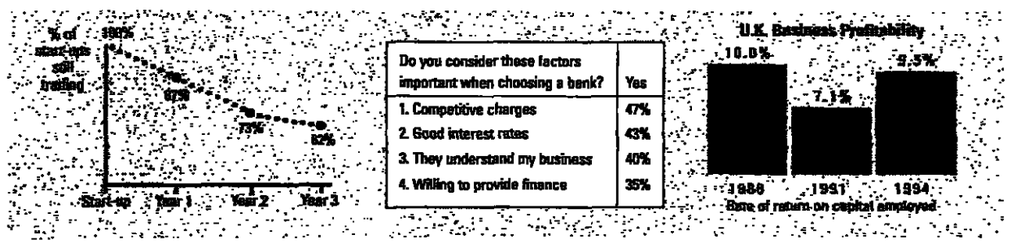
The independent view:



"Of course, cost is the overriding concern of business customers, but we've actually found that business people are prepared to pay for an efficient banking service. In return, they want banks to explain exactly what the charges are for, and to assure them that they're not subsidising free banking for personal account holders. At the FPB, we believe that written contracts, setting out the whole relationship, would be a good way forward. Both sides have a responsibility to improve relations: customers should be more willing to share management and financial information. And banks, in turn, should reward those customers with improved margins and charges."

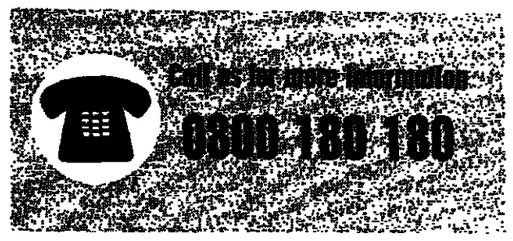


The facts:



Our conclusions:

A bank is not only a service provider, it's a business, and as such has to make money. Charges really do vary between banks, and for the last five years our small business tariff has been the lowest among the high street banks. We've recognised that people are more tolerant about bank charges if they know exactly what they're for. That's why we explain our charges beforehand: our policy is to charge fairly with no surprises. We've also recognised that banks have a responsibility to help businesses at their most fragile stage, which is normally their first year. So we're offering twelve months' free banking to new businesses, whether they're in credit or debit.



The Listening Bank

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Start-up businesses with a projected turnover of up to £100,000 pa will benefit from 12 months' free banking. Free banking means no standard activity charges will be applied in the first year. Thereafter, these customers will pay our published small business tariff unless alternative terms are negotiated. Established businesses transferring to Midland with turnovers of up to £100,000 pa will normally pay our published small business tariff for 12 months but thereafter alternative terms may be negotiated. Larger start-up or established businesses will pay negotiated terms. Midland Bank plc reserves the right not to open an account.

Chart facts sourced from: Midland Bank rolling data, City Research Group and Central Statistical Office. Quotes sourced from a survey conducted by Kadence Market Research April 1995.

ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



VISUAL ART

The National Trust's finest paintings go on show at the National Gallery

OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



MUSIC

On the South Bank Esa-Pekka Salonen conducts the Sinfonietta in his own pieces

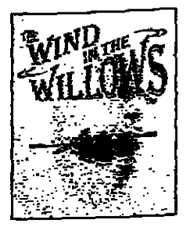
CONCERT: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



DANCE

Striking stuff? Momix comes to Sadler's Wells with a show about baseball

OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



THEATRE

Kenneth Grahame's furry friends settle in at the Old Vic for the season

OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

POP REVIEWS: The dramatic rehabilitation of the Charlatans; plus, a surprising change of pace from Emmylou Harris

Troopers back in fashion

Charlatans
Brixton Academy

The Charlatans, who began 1995 in the file marked Yesterday's Men, have ended the year with a triumphant, sold-out tour and another No 1 album under their collective belt. Experts are still puzzled as to how the group has achieved such a dramatic rehabilitation. For, unlike the Stone Roses and Happy Mondays, their errant contemporaries from the "Madchester" scene of the late 1980s, the Charlatans have never disappeared or changed what they were doing. Indeed, they have put out four, roughly similar albums in less time than it took the Stone Roses to produce *The Second Coming*. And yet, with the arrival of the new Mancunian superstars Oasis and the Britpop revolution, the fickle finger of fashion is once again pointing in the Charlatans' direction.

As their live show confirmed, they are certainly not a band with a talent for the grand gesture or the vision thing. Swathed in dry ice and lit in dull reds and greens, the four instrumentalists — Martin Blunt (bass), Mark Collins (guitar), Rob Collins (keyboards) and Jon Brookes (drums) — effected a defiantly nondescript presence. Sturdy musicians, no doubt, but the burden of putting the show across fell squarely on the slender shoulders of singer Tim Burgess. Dressed in a plain white T-shirt and dark, loose trousers, he lolloped around the stage in that trademarked, slow-motion baggy-boy shuffle, as if trying to run a marathon underwater.

There was a fleeting moment of drama as they began with the big, rolling beat and American Indian chant of *Nine Acre Court*, but then it was straight into *Just Lookin'*, the first of many mid-pace numbers, with an almost-good tune and a fat, feelgood groove. Delivered with no frills or fuss, *Here Comes A Soul Saver*, *Thank You* and *Easy Life* were all greeted with delight by an audience so firmly crammed into this 4,200-capacity venue that it seemed like a club of half the size.

Like so many of their 1990s confreres, the Charlatans have evolved a modern, danceable style of music with its provenance in the 1960s. Live, as on record, their most distinctive feature was Rob Collins's authentic Hammond organ sound. Always on the money, Collins made an especially forceful contribution to *Toothache*, a somewhat murkier riff than the norm, which he gilded with a peculiarly distorted solo full of brooding machismo.

Would that Burgess could have done anything half as distinctive with his voice, but despite his stunningly telegenic looks, as a singer he provided little more than a thin coat of icing on an otherwise rich cake. If anything, the most memorable tunes, *Can't Get Out Of Bed* and *Crashin' In*, both punctuated by lots of neat little stops and pushes, seemed to emerge despite rather than because of his performance.

While enjoyable on its own terms, there was a lack of variety and ambition about the show as a whole, and their shortcomings in the singing and songwriting department will probably prevent the Charlatans from ever becoming a first division band. But in vogue or not, they remain rock'n'roll footsoldiers par excellence.

DAVID SINCLAIR

MARTIN BEDDALL



Tim Burgess, lead singer of the Charlatans, in action at the Brixton Academy on Saturday night: "a thin coat of icing on an otherwise rich cake"

Heartache spoken here

Emmylou Harris
Empire, W12

Emmylou Harris has one of the greatest voices in country music, but her latest album, *Wrecking Ball*, on which she collaborated with Daniel Lanois, Neil Young and U2's Larry Mullen, refuses to be confined to one genre. Consequently, anyone who has yet to hear the album and went along to the Empire expecting a country show must have found the whole thing extremely confusing.

This was as much Daniel Lanois's show as it was Harris's. He had brought along his two-piece band of bassist Darryl Johnson and drummer Brady Blade and, within minutes, they had launched into a brilliant version of Hendrix's *May This Be Love*, with Lanois and Harris sharing vocals, while Johnson swapped his bass for a bodhran to give it an even more primal twist. When Harris smiled and said, "Welcome to the Wrecking Ball," it didn't matter that most of her album guests were missing — you could almost feel Mullen's presence on the big, blinding drum beat and U2-style strains of *Where Will I Be*, while Lanois's guitar playing was a constant reminder of Young, especially during *Wrecking Ball* itself.

Harris seemed perfectly at ease, whether trading guitar licks with Lanois or just dancing around in the background, her tall, elegant figure offset by her trademark grey hair. Throughout the two-hour show, she sang of heartache and heartbreak, her vocals soaring and aching and occasionally close to breaking in the way only truly great voices can.

Harris played without the band just once, stepping forward to declare that it was "ladies' choice" and choosing one of her old favourites, *Making Believe*. But for the most part, she avoided country standards, not even giving way during the encore when she opted for a cappella gospel and the traditional *You Don't Miss Your Water* instead. Even when the lights came up, the crowd refused to leave, drowning out the disco with their cries for more.

Some people were probably hoping that Harris and Lanois would do one of the duets that she used to do with her late friend and mentor Gram Parsons, but the whole band appeared to do The Meters' *Africa*. Its drum-heavy, tribal rhythm came as a surprise to everyone — Harris, who was apparently unfamiliar with it, included. But that is one of the great things about Emmylou Harris: she has always avoided the obvious choices and opted for more challenging material. If *Wrecking Ball* has proved anything, it is that.

ANN SCANLON

THEATRE

Fishy business

Double Bill
Hampstead

THIS double bill of one-woman shows is the last offering in Hampstead's season of Edinburgh successes. The first half is clever and funny, the second all that and more, developing into an exposition on the true nature of love, no less passionate because the partners are a woman and a fish.

Geraldine McNulty lives up to the definition in her title, *Ten Women in a One-frock Show*, playing a decade of variously odd women but keeping on the same black frock. With a beret slanting across her head and a daft pedantry in her voice, she angles herself across a chair to explain how profound is the impact of love upon a truly sensitive soul. With her hair in a scarlet net and her mouth fixed in a new line she becomes a Galway landlady discovering the profit in guests who are dead but not departed. Brief, well-observed character sketches, none deep but mostly amusing.

In Lynn Ferguson's *Heart and Sole* there are two main characters, plus a strange deep-sea worshipper who dips, so to speak, the tip of a fin into the story but does not go the whole dorsal. The heroine is Carol, an infants' teacher from Glasgow, not exactly happy in her St Andrews school, burdened with a father who is big in the Lodge and a boyfriend who does not simply believe in God but, as she puts it, believes he is God.

Small wonder that she turns elsewhere, finding love in the tank of a public aquarium. We laugh as Ferguson's chest heaves with excitement upon reaching this point in the story; laugh again at the sardonic comments uttered by Carol's friend Elaine, vouchsafing the popular view from across an ironing board.

But this curious story has such a freshness and charm that the matter-of-fact development and the sad/happy end make you feel that the relationship, though necessarily non-sexual, will have brought Carol more happiness than the human alternative.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Thar

Simon reading notes, Chris pacing back and forth. **She's not gonna make it, is she. CHRIS, CHRIS, ...IT'LL BE ALRIGHT, SHE KNOWS WHAT TIME TO BE HERE. But if she's late then it's all going to start stacking up.** looks at studio clock, then at his watch **HOW LATE IS SHE? I don't know, she should be here by now... HANG ON, YOU DO A GOOD CHER, DON'T YOU?**

DJ: Simon Mayo
Time: 9am - 12pm
Mondays - Fridays
Frequency 97 - 99FM



BBC RADIO ONE 97-99

From the cradle to the stage

CONCERT

LSO / Rostropovich
Barbican

IT WAS nappy rash week at the Barbican: two consecutive nights when the London Symphony Orchestra had hired two infant prodigies to draw the crowds, excite the record companies and trail their clouds of glory with grandaddy Rostropovich in benevolent tow behind them.

The posters never do anybody many favours: the Snoopy dog lurking on the piano stool next to 13-year-old Helen Huang is certainly an improvement on the clinging wet T-shirt of Vanessa Mae. But it is no less an emblem of the baggage these young performers inevitably bring with them: the questions about exploitation, about the projections of parents, the vicarious glory of the teacher.

And do we really know what we are looking for? Is it the precociously old head on the narrow 12-year-old shoulders of a Han-Na Chang, whose cello playing knows no age or season? Or is it the truly childlike delight of a Helen Huang, obedient to her own learning and true to her own age? The first is what most would call a prodigy, the second may well be an adult musician in the making.

Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 1 revealed Huang's nascent technique — a full, singing tone with even, creamy articulation — and a gentle sensibility which listens to its own responses as well as those all around her. She chose Beethoven's marathon cadenza and, naturally lacking the arm power and extrovert confidence of an adult, tended to overcompensate in forceful emphasis. And there is a point, too, at which purely technical demands can override the innate spirit of the music at this stage: paradoxically, I have heard more genuinely playful, childlike rondos from grown men.

This, though, seemed to me right and proper —, a live, bubbling potential, patiently waiting to be filled out by a broadening vision. Chang, though, is no bobbysoxer. Her performance of Tchaikovsky's *Variations on a Rococo Theme* was as sober as her long black gown. It moved from a self-possessed understatement of the theme, to a dark, almost harrowing investigation of its emotional potential. For the *Andante sostenuto*, a perfectly controlled bow glided on a film of fine ice: the solo, cadenza-like variation was a passionate response to the work's inner imagination — no mere test piece this. With Chang's performance, the music-making all but obscured the child in her: I shall remember it longer but fear for her more.

HILARY FINCH



Rostropovich: like a benevolent grandad

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

STRAVINSKY'S *PETRUSHKA*
Reviewed by Roger Nichols



First performed by Diaghilev's Russian Ballet in 1911, *Petrushka* was the second of the three great scores Stravinsky wrote for the company before the First World War. In it he used Russian folk tunes in nearer their raw state than had the composers of the Five, who in general preferred to tailor them for bourgeois consumption.

Of the 36 recordings available, some are reissues of only historical interest, including that of the concert suite from the ballet, recorded by Stravinsky in 1928 (Pearl GEMMCD 9329). Unsatisfactory sound also rules out versions from Stokowski and Ansermet.

Stravinsky's 1960 recording of the complete ballet with the Columbia Symphony Orchestra is also of obvious historical interest, but it is too often brash and unloving. It is interesting that for this recording the composer went back to his original 1911 score, and not to the revision he published in 1947, in which he reduced the large orchestra and rationalised the scoring on more contrapuntal lines.

Increasingly of late, conductors have been returning to the early version, but both Simon Rattle, with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, and Esa-Pekka Salonen with the Philharmonia prefer that of 1947. Rattle has the advantage of Peter Donohoe's brilliant piano playing, but I find one or two of his speeds a little on the fast side, while in Salonen's version the commendable frenzy of the pianism is not always matched by accuracy.

Of the versions of the 1911 score, the two by Pierre Boulez are crystal clear, but the earthy touch eludes him; and his 1971 recording with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra actually contains that Boulez rarity, a mistake.

Bernard Haitink's performance with the Berlin Philharmonic contains many excellent things, but is marred by some uneven piano playing in the second scene and one annoying spot of traffic noise.

Highly commended are Charles Mackerras and the LSO, and Gerard Schwarz with the Seattle Symphony, who get across both the ebullient surface and the strong structure of the score.

But my recommendation is the recording by **Charles Dutoit** and the **LSO** on Deutsche Grammophon (DG 439 463-2 £7.99), which renounces episodic brilliance to some extent, in favour of the narrative flow as well as responding to the tension in the work between the regular and the irregular — between the stiff, formalised movements of the puppets and the messier business of "real" life.

Best of all, in Dutoit's rendering of the marvellous final bars we are brought face to face with uncomfortable questions about the human condition.

● *Recommended recordings can be ordered from The Times CD Mail, 29 Pall Mall Deposit, Barlby Road, London W10 6BL (freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk)*
● *Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): Dvořák's String Sextet in A*

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■ OPERA

Simon Rattle directs an 'authentic' *Così fan tutte* at the Festival Hall

CONCERT: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



■ FILM

Joan Collins joins Kenneth Branagh's troupe for the wry theatricals of *In the Bleak Midwinter*

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



■ POP

The Stone Roses finally get their act together, and take it on the road to be adored

GIGS: Touring nightly
REVIEW: Next Monday



■ BOOKS

Russia falling: the last days of the Romanovs are captured in three new studies

IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY IN SECTION 2



Twyla Tharp and dancers of the Royal Ballet rehearsing *Mr Worldly Wise*, "the exact antithesis of the traditional full-length opera house ballet"

Tharp springs eternal

A new work from an innovative American choreographer is exactly what the troubled Royal Ballet needs, says **Debra Craine**

The Royal Ballet could certainly do with a boost. The past 12 months have seen the company buffeted by unrelenting winds of bad publicity. Remember the infamous Michael Clark, who failed to deliver his scheduled new ballet? Or the American William Forsythe, who turned his Covent Garden commission into a psychobabble whinge about why he could only produce half of what was ordered? Or the dancers who went on record complaining that life at the Royal Opera House was stifling their opportunities as performers?

The past few weeks haven't been too good either. Darcey Bussell, the company's star ballerina, was sidelined by yet another injury; then, most spectacularly, her dancing partner Zoltan Solymosi was sacked after altercations with senior artistic staff. It was beginning to look as if nothing could go right for the Royal Ballet.

Until Twyla Tharp arrived, that is. One of the foremost choreographers in the world, Tharp is the very embodiment of American optimism and drive, and her new full-length ballet for Covent Garden is hitting the company like a tonic.

"The Royal Ballet needs Twyla at this point," says Leanne Benjamin, one of the dancers featured in Tharp's creation. "We need a boost and we need positiveness, someone who knows what they want. We need real confidence here; we've had a lot of unsettling times these past 12 months and the dancers feel a bit insecure. We need this person who is so confident and energetic; she's good for us."

That confidence and energy have taken Tharp through three decades of intense dance-making that have produced some of the most innovative — and popular — works around, like *Push Comes to Shove* for Mikhail Baryshnikov and *In the Upper Room*, her wildly successful collaboration with Philip Glass. Tharp has done everything, from the rigours of backstreet avant-gardism to the glitz of Broadway and Hollywood, all of it the product of her uncanny ability to mix artistic integrity with a flair for good old-fashioned entertainment. They love her in America, they love her in Paris, but this is the first time she has ever worked with a British ballet company.

So what does she give us by way of introduction? A sampler of her greatest hits? No, with characteristic boldness Tharp instead chooses to break ground with a new three-act "theme" ballet that features neither specific characters nor a specific plot. And although she may not know it, her commission marks the first time that an outside choreographer has created a completely original full-length ballet on the Covent Garden company.

"A lot is riding on this ballet, and it's a big ballet as well," says Tetsuya Kumakawa, who plays one of the leading parts. "There is definitely a sense of importance to this work."

"People would love this ballet to be a big success, like *Fearful Symmetries*, which won the Olivier Award," adds Deborah Bull. "It's nice to be positive about things, and it would be great if this were an audience success."

So anxious is the management that it should be, a new pricing policy has been established which sees seats for the Tharp ballet going at half the regular rate. "It's very risky. English audiences don't like change," says Darcey Bussell. "We are still quite set in our ways, which is why it is so wonderful to suddenly do something like Twyla Tharp. We've woken up."

Tharp is well aware that what she is creating is the exact antithesis of the traditional full-length opera house ballet. "This is not based on a fairy-tale, it is not based on a historical incident, and that just about takes care of the three-act ballets," she says. "But there are psychological realities that have a theatrical potency just as powerful."

Her ballet, titled *Mr Worldly Wise*, is inspired by the turbulent life of Rossini, although it is in no way a biographical re-enactment of historical events. "It doesn't have the details of Rossini's life," explains the choreographer. "It doesn't have his mother, it doesn't have a limp. But it is the progression of a character who starts in a very excessive, dominating, grandiose way and then moves into a very restricted period of abstinence and then comes back with the capacity to work moderately."

The central character is portrayed by Irek Mukhamedov. Kumakawa is his sidekick, servant, jester and friend, while Bussell represents his control, his peace and sanity, the revelation of a higher order. Working at an astonishing rate — she completed one hour in just three weeks — Tharp has fed off the strengths of the Royal's dancers, their superb classical technique and their "sense of adventure". "This company has a wonderful dancing spirit," says Tharp. "The soloists are excellent, and the three principals are divine. How can the audience not go mad for Irek and Tetsuya? These two guys have this great chemistry going between them; they are a phenomenal team, a real act. And Darcey, she is the quintessence of simplicity, of purity."

The depth of talent in the company has allowed Tharp to use both a quartet and a sextet, in addition to a chorus of 16 dancers, while the musical resources of the Opera House are being called upon to service a score made up of a wide range of Rossini compositions, from religious songs to the *Petite messe solennelle*, from the operas *Ermione*, *Bianca e Faliero* and *Eduardo e Cristina*, to the familiar gallop of the *William Tell* overture.

"Choreographically, I decided I would do everything from A to Z, so I started thinking that all these scenes would have different stylistic approaches. Some would be on a very grand scale, some would be intimate. It was an attempt to master the pot-pourri approach: a little of everything and yet still convince everyone that everything was essential."

Benjamin believes *Mr Worldly Wise* "will be a new education for us and the audience. People might not like it, they may be bowled over by it. But I think the audience will find it extremely interesting. And I hope they do give it time, because Twyla Tharp has given the Royal Ballet a new inspiration."

● Mr Worldly Wise *opens at Covent Garden (0171-304 4000) on December 9*

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

THE COMPOSER CONDUCTS: Esa-Pekka Salonen, the phenomenally talented if reticent conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, returns to the London Sinfonietta for another of its The Composer Conducts series. Tonight's programme includes three of Salonen's works, plus pieces from Anton Webern, Witold Lutoslawski and Bernd-Alois Zimmermann.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.45pm. Ⓢ

VOLPONE: Last week of performances for a subtle and fascinating Michael Gambon in the title role, ably supported by Simon Russell Beale as his wily sidekick. A rare treat.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Wed, 7.15pm, mat Wed, 2pm. Ⓢ

ARCADIA: Tom Stoppard's witty, intriguing, and award-winning piece stops off near the end of its national tour. Sharon Maughan and Paul Shelley star in the time-warp comedy that is part historical romance and part detective story, co-produced with the National Theatre.
Richmond, The Green, Richmond Ⓢ (0181-940 0088). Tues-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. Next week in **Wolverhampton**, Grand (01902 29212).

ELSEWHERE

SOUTHAMPTON: It's that time of the year again, when one of the best ballet scores rings joyously around theatres, and Ben Stevenson's staging of *The Nutcracker* for **English National Ballet** is suitably sparkling and lively.
Mayflower, Commercial Road, (01703-711 811). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. Ⓢ

Patrick Sandford's production of Shakespeare's bittersweet sort-of-comedy **All's Well That Ends Well** (also in Southampton) must make way for Christmas with Dumas, and so it is last week of performances for Alexandra Mathie, Joanna Monro and Granville Saxton.
Nuffield, University Road (01703 671771). Tonight-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Ⓢ

EDINBURGH: Last week of performances too for Tom McGovern playing the Prince in Kenny Ireland's production of **Hamlet**, using an expanded version of David Mamet's cut version. Brian Cox makes a video appearance as a 40-foot high Ghost.
Royal Lyceum, Grindlay Street (0131-229 9697). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm. Ⓢ

Also in Edinburgh, violinist Ralph Oleg and pianist Eric Le Sage continue the Queen's Hall's English-French New Alliance chamber music season with a programme of Strauss, Poulenc and Beethoven.
Queen's Hall, Clerk Street (0131-668 2019). Tonight, 7.45pm. Ⓢ

NEWCASTLE: **Barry Humphries** continues his merry way around the country, on the loose again with a decidedly undiplomatic Les Patterson and the glittering housewife and superstar, Dame Edna Everage. Hugely enjoyable frivolous fun.
Theatre Royal, Grey Street (0191-232 2061). Tonight-Sat, 8pm; Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

LONDON GALLERIES

Hayward: Art and Power: Europe under the dictators 1930-1945 (071-928 3144) . . . **National Gallery**: Paintings from National Trust Houses (0171-747 2885) . . . **National Portrait Gallery**: Richard and Maria Cosway (0171-306 0055) . . . **Royal Academy**: Africa: Art of a Continent (0171-439 7438) . . . **Serpentine**: William Turnbull: sculpture and paintings (0171-723 9072) . . . **Tate**: Art Now 4, Miroslaw Balka (0171-887 8000) . . . **V & A**: Jain Art from India (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◧ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

■ **BREAK OF DAY**: Timberlake Wertenbaker play in which Out Of Joint's *Three Sisters* company looks at women's circumstances a century on from Chekhov. Max Stafford-Clark directs.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Now previewing, 7.30pm; opens tomorrow.

□ **THE CABINET OF DOKTOR CALIGARI**: A stage version of the German silent classic. Good sets, unearthly music, pointless dancing but a haunting performance by John Ramm as Matthew Kelly's sleepwalking killer.
Lyric, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Last week. Ⓢ

◧ **DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS**: Shared Experience back in town with O'Neill's passionate drama of father-son rivalry and forbidden love. Nancy Meckler directs.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Dec 6, 2pm and Sat, 4pm. Ⓢ

□ **THE HOTHOUSE**: Assailed by crises in a mysterious detention centre, Harold Pinter is marvellously funny, heading the strong cast in his own, long-buried play.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm. Final week.

□ **HYSTERIA**: Henry Goodman plays Freud, with Tim Potter as Salvador Dali, in Terry Johnson's surreal, double award-winner, directed by Phyllida Lloyd in the Royal Court Classics season.
Duke of Yorks, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Now previewing, 7.30pm; opens Nov 30, 7pm. Ⓢ

■ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS**: Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-knowing Inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engel as the pillars of society.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5pm.

◧ **JOLSON**: The highs and lows of the singer with with a monster ego. Brian Conley belts out the songs enjoyably and Sally Ann Triplett is an impressive Ruby Keeler.
Victoria Palace, Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

□ **THE MASTER BUILDER**: Peter Hall's sexually understated production: Alan Bates the smoldering hero, fine performances by Gemma Jones and Victoria Hamilton.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

◧ **THE SHAKESPEARE REVUE**: A witty evening of song, dance and sketches to do with William S. Assembled by Christopher Luscombe and Malcolm Mckee.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 5.30pm.

◧ **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS**: Jeremy Sinden plays Toad and Francis Matthews is Badger in the now annual return of the National Theatre production, directed this year by Jeremy Sams.
Old Vic, Waterloo Rd, SE1 (0171-928 6655). Now previewing, 7.30pm, opens Nov 29, 7pm. Ⓢ

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Communicating Doors**: Gielgud (0171-494 5530) . . □ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) . . □ **Dead Guilty**: Apollo (0171-494 5070) . . ◧ **Grease**: Dominion (0171-416 6060) . . ◧ **Indian Ink**: Aldwych (0171-416 6003) . . ◧ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) . . □ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) . . □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

L'AVVENTURA (PG): Monica Vitti lights up the screen as the forlorn, questing heroine of Antonioni's 1960 classic. A welcome revival.
Screen/Hill Ⓢ (0171-435 3366)

THE BASKETBALL DIARIES (18): Leonardo DiCaprio descends into heroin's hell. Scott Kalvert directs unedifying version of Jim Carroll's book.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

CARLOTA JOAQUINA, PRINCESS OF BRAZIL (15): Gauche and eccentric historical romp about the rulers of 18th-century Brazil. Director, Carla Camurati.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891)

A FISTFUL OF FINGERS (15): Juvenile Western spoof filmed in Somerset; it should have lasted 20 minutes. Director, Edgar Wright.
Prince Charles (0171-437 8181)

◆ **GOLDENEYE** (12): Pierce Brosnan twinkles as the new James Bond. A rip-roaring thriller with a sense of humour; with Sean Bean, Izabella Scorupco and Famke Janssen. Martin Campbell directs.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

SHANGHAI TRIAD (15): Enjoyably opulent gangster saga from Chinese director Zhang Yimou. With Gong Li.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722)

CURRENT

◆ **APOLLO 13** (PG): The near-fatal moon mission of 1970. Splendid images, but conventional drama. With Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon and Ed Harris.
Empire Ⓢ (0990 888990) **MGM Fulham Road** Ⓢ (0171-370 2636) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **CRIMSON TIDE** (15): Antique heroics in a nuclear submarine, with Gene Hackman and Denzel Washington. Director, Tony Scott.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

LA HAINE (15): Powerful, angry drama about volatile youths on a Paris housing estate. Director, Mathieu Kassovitz.
Gate Ⓢ (0171-727 4043) **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691) **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker St** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520)

LIVING IN OBLIVION (15): Trials and tribulations of making a low-budget movie. Delicious comedy.
MGMs: Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Panton Street** (0171-930 0631) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

◆ **THE SCARLET LETTER** (15): Sex and guilt in 17th-century Massachusetts, a long way from Hawthorne's novel. With Demi Moore, Gary Oldman and Robert Duvall. Director, Roland Joffe.
MGM Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **TO DIE FOR** (15): Delicious social satire about a television weather girl's murderous lust for glory. Gus Van Sant directs Nicole Kidman and Matt Dillon.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** Ⓢ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **A WALK IN THE CLOUDS** (PG): Vacuous 1940s romance with Keanu Reeves as a returning soldier who finds a new life in California's vineyards. Director, Alfonso Arau.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

LARGE SOVIET Oil Paintings for sale Roy Miles Gallery, 29 Bruton Street, W1 0171-495 4747

LEFEVRE GALLERY 30 Bruton St, W1. 0171-493 2107. An exhibition of MODERN BRITISH ARTISTS 1900-1945. 27 Nov-20 Dec. Mon-Fri 10-5

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Satellite to probe solar secrets ☐ What snakes and mongooses have in common ☐ Grease digester unblocks sewers

Shedding light on the Sun



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

THE SUN, once worshipped by the ancients for its perfection, is about to have its imperfections anatomised by astronomers. The Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) ought to have been in orbit already, but last Wednesday's launch was halted when a fault was found in the Atlas Centaur rocket. Rescheduled for tomorrow, it has now been further postponed to December 7.

The problem lies in a faulty engine thrust regulator. Engineers are working hard to put it right, but on Saturday were forced to call for a further delay. When SOHO finally does get off the pad at Cape Canaveral in Florida, it will begin a four-month journey towards a point in space about a million-and-a-half kilometres from Earth.

This is the Lagrangian Point, called L1, a region where the gravitational pull from the Earth and Moon equals that from the Sun. SOHO will not park itself exactly at L1, but will go into an orbit around it, on a plane roughly perpendicular to the axis between the Earth and the Sun. From here it will have a continuous, uninterrupted view of the Sun, and easy communication with the Earth.

Although all life on Earth depends on the Sun, there are plenty of things we do not yet known about it. SOHO, a joint enterprise between the European Space Agency and the US space agency Nasa, carries a dozen instruments. The Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council is supporting British scientists on five of these instruments, at a total cost over the two-year mission of more than £50 million.

The instruments will cover three different areas: helioseismology, the solar atmosphere and the solar wind. Far from being the perfect orb that it appears to us, the Sun is shaken by sound waves that cause its surface to vibrate rather like a jelly. By measuring these oscillations, solar physicists can learn something about what is going on in the interior.

"To disentangle these oscillations we will need continuous observation for months," says Professor Douglas Gough of Cambridge University. The process, he says, will be akin to working out how a violin is constructed simply from the noise it makes.

One instrument, called GOLF — global oscillations at low frequency — should be able to make deductions about the internal rotation of the Sun and the convection currents within it by observing the waves at the surface. A separate instrument will measure the variation in the Sun's energy output, and by comparing data with that from GOLF, may be able to detect gravity waves generated in the Sun's core.

Another set of experiments will look at the Sun's atmosphere. Here is a great unsolved puzzle: the solar atmosphere, or corona, is hundreds of times hotter than the photosphere, which is closer to the centre of the Sun.

Since the heat originates at the centre, this is the reverse of what one would expect, suggesting that there are undiscovered mechanisms by which the corona is heated.

Deadly bite



THANKS to Rudyard Kipling, we know that a mongoose's business in life is "to fight and eat snakes". Israeli scientists have recently reported how the mongoose manages to get away with it.

Snake venom is lethal because it interferes with the signals sent by the central nervous system to the muscles. Many of these involve acetylcholine, which delivers the message by attaching to special receptors on the muscle cells.

Snake toxins stop the process by binding to the acetylcholine receptor, blocking the normal signals and paralysing the muscles. Yet snakes themselves appear to be immune to the toxins, as are mongooses.

Professor Sara Fuchs and colleagues from the Weizmann Institute in Rehovoth have now found out why. They sequenced the protein that makes up the acetylcholine receptor in mongooses and snakes, and report in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* that it differs very slightly from that in other animals.

Of the several hundred amino acids in the protein, just four are different in mongooses and in snakes when compared to humans and other mammals which are susceptible to snake toxin. Of these four, only two are crucial for the actual attachment of acetylcholine, while the other two control how firmly it binds.

Fat buster



ONE OF the less attractive consequences of the fast-food revolution is the accumulation in drains and sewage works of huge amounts of congealed fats. The only answer, in some places, is digging or rodding the drains out and carting the grease away.

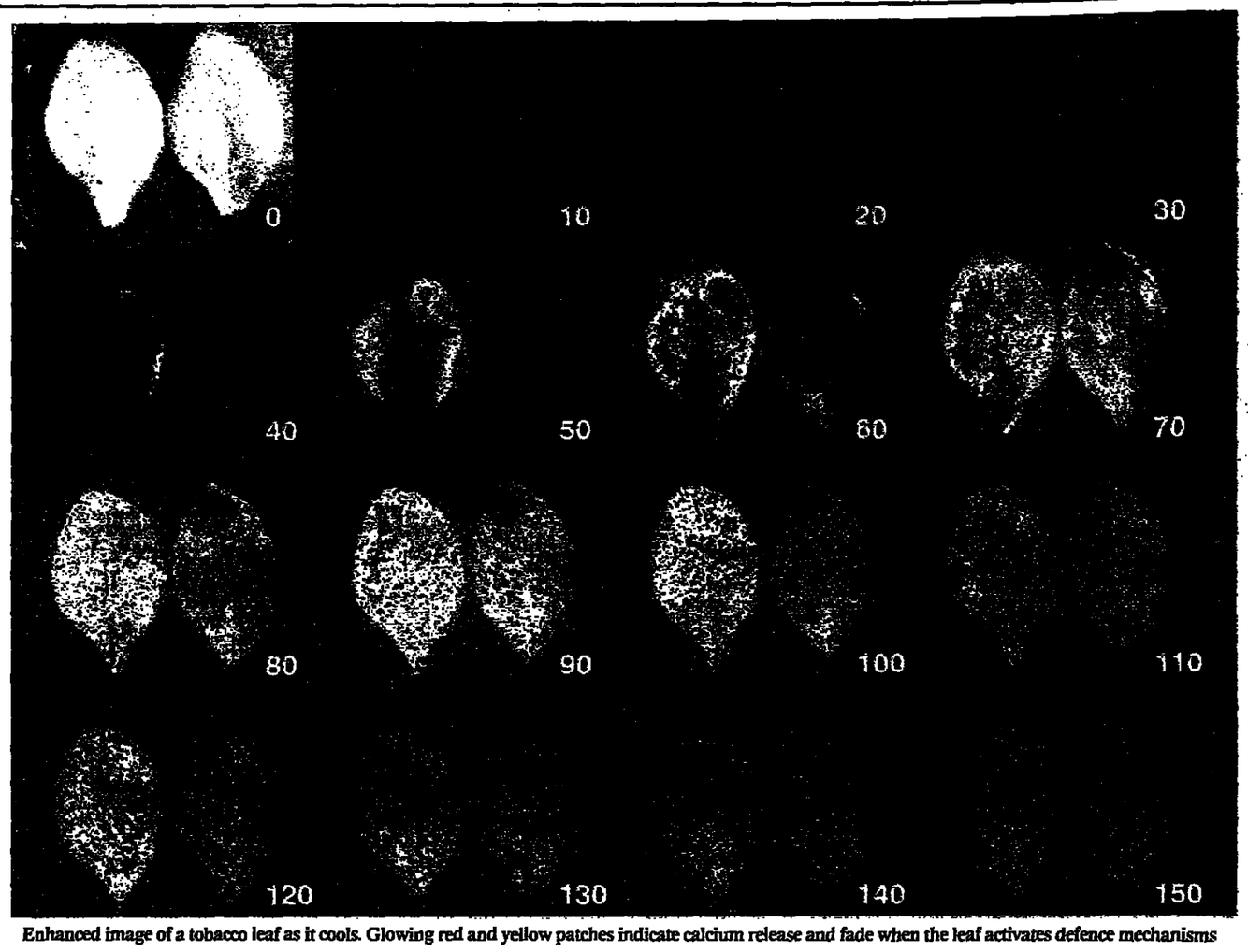
Grease traps can be used, but they too need cleaning out and often fail. A simple piece of kit, made by Viridian Bioprocessing of Whitstable, Kent, promises a better answer.

The grease digester uses bacteria to break down oils and fats into harmless, soluble waste. The bacteria are nothing special, simply the normal range of commonly-occurring bugs that would feed on the grease anyway. But in a sewer, the grease digester, placed between the kitchen outlet and the sewer, is a sealed container about the size of a bath-tub. It peps up the bugs by regular, automatic feeding with pellets containing nitrogen and phosphorus, and by keeping the greasy water aerated by circulating it over weirs in the digestion chamber. The result is not clean water exactly, but something the sewers can handle.

McDonald's has already installed a couple of the fat busters. At its Woking restaurant, cleaners were being called out every three months to clear the gunge, at £700 a time. Since the digester went in in January, the problem has disappeared.

Why we need crops that glow in the dark

Plants that can produce their own alarm signal will soon be with us. **Anjana Ahuja** reports



Enhanced image of a tobacco leaf as it cools. Glowing red and yellow patches indicate calcium release and fade when the leaf activates defence mechanisms

The British countryside could acquire an eerie glow, if Dr Marc Knight and three colleagues at Oxford University get their way. Together with a team at Edinburgh University, they are planning to use plants which shine when attacked to spot crops under assault from mildews, blights and extremely cold weather. Beginning with potato crops, this luminous detection system could be available within three years.

The idea of light as an alarm signal is borrowed from the living world. Biochemists noted in the Sixties that the *Aequorea Victoria*, a jellyfish found in the Pacific ocean, had a ring of tissue around the mouth which glows if prodded. The protein responsible for the glow, aequorin, is triggered by the production of calcium.

Plant scientists were immediately interested because plants produce calcium when they come under attack, say from mildew or insects. The calcium acts as a trigger, switching on protective processes. They had to wait, however, until advances in genetic engineering in the Eighties made it possible to clone the jellyfish gene which produces aequorin.



Dr Marc Knight

Building on this work, Dr Knight and his colleagues engineered an artificial plant gene which they hoped would make a plant light up when under attack. They tried it first in the tobacco plant, which is both easy to adapt genetically and good at regenerating itself. To test whether the engineering was successful, they placed calcium on its leaves. Once absorbed, the plant began to glow. At the time, Dr Knight was based at the Institute of Cell and Molecular Biology at Edinburgh University, under Professor Tony Trewavas.

"We had gone to Cardiff because we did not have sensitive enough equipment in our laboratories to do the experiments," he says. "It was late at night, and suddenly we got light. It was one of the best moments of my career."

The glow was not visible to the naked eye but could be picked up by a sensitive light detector and amplified. "The reaction takes less than a millisecond," says Dr Knight. Previous ways of measuring the defensive reactions of plants involved using calcium-sensitive dyes or checking the electrical current produced by the flow of calcium ions. "They were slow and could only be used in single cells, making them useless for whole plants," says Dr Knight. "And prodding plants with electrodes disturbs what you are trying to measure."

The researchers now had an excellent way of measuring how plants reacted to the changing world around them, and they went on to assess the plants' reaction to fungal pests, low temperature and wind.

Their results appeared in *Nature* in 1991. Although their work had clear practical applications, they decided to pursue pure research further before making a jump into the practical side. "We wanted to find out everything there was to know about plant behaviour first. We showed that the principle would work for any plant."

Although Dr Knight, 30, then moved to Oxford as a Royal Society research fellow at St Edmund Hall, he continued to collaborate with Professor Trewavas. After four years they are sure a detection system can be engineered for any crop.

It is not necessary for each plant in the crop to be specially adapted. The idea is that any field would contain a few plants genetically engineered to glow when they come under attack. In a field of potatoes, for example, one adapted potato plant could highlight potato blight (*Phytophora infestans*), and another could warn of exceptionally cold weather. The detectors would spot anything amiss well before the rot sets in.

"Then the farmer could treat the crops selectively, spraying pesticide only where the crops needed it," he says. "At the moment we have a 'spray and pray' approach, where absolutely everything is treated. Our method cuts down on the need for chemicals, which saves money, helps the environment and is better for us because we don't have to eat contaminated food."

The main shortcoming of the engineered plants is that the glow given off is too faint to be visible, and needs to be picked up by sensitive light detectors and amplified. However, this equipment is too expensive to include in a practical detection system.

Ideally, the glow would be visible to the naked eye, which means a hundredfold increase in the amount of aequorin in the plants. So one of the biggest tasks will be to engineer the plants to generate the protein in greater quantities, so that more light is given off when the calcium is released.

It is not only farmers who will benefit from this research. Despairing owners of drooping cheeseplants could be grateful, too.

"I was moving the tobacco plants around and our detector suddenly picked up large amounts of light, which meant they were reacting to touch," says Dr Knight." Perplexed by this observation, he then read a paper in the journal *Cell* which showed a difference between a plant that had been stroked regularly, and an untended neighbour. The one that had been stroked was shorter and sturdier.

Dr Knight is now convinced that the secret of green fingers lies in talking to and gently touching houseplants, because these actions mimic a natural environment. "I know it sounds wacky," he admits. "But plants in the wild are used to being touched by wind and animals rubbing against them. Talking causes your breath to flow over them, which is like wind." As a result the plant becomes more robust.

What about engineering houseplants which glow when they need attention? "It would be nice to have poplar trees which light up in the wind, or even glowing roses for candlelit dinners," he agrees. "Now there would be a tremendous commercial opportunity."

A brief history of time travel

Stephen Hawking says he has changed his mind about visiting the past. **Nigel Hawkes** reports

IS TIME travel possible? In the year that marks the 100th anniversary of H.G. Wells's novel *The Time Machine*, it still fascinates people, to judge by the questions Professor Stephen Hawking was asked after his *Times* lecture at the Royal Albert Hall last week.

His answer came in two parts — yes and no. But for a serious physicist even to offer an answer on such a subject is a mark of the times. A few years ago nobody would have entertained the question, and in his book, *A Brief History of Time*, Hawking himself dismisses the prospect.

Since then he has changed his mind slightly but, as he explained in his lecture, he still feels that for objects as large as human beings, travelling back in time is probably impossible. For subatomic particles, however, different considerations may apply.

Travelling forward in time doesn't present any special difficulties. We do it every day, though only at the rate of one hour every hour. But it would be possible to travel into the future faster than that by going into space on a rocket that travelled at a speed close to that of light.

On returning a year later, we would find that, on Earth, several decades, or even millennia, had elapsed. This is a consequence of the fact that time runs more slowly if you are travelling very fast. Many people still find this implausible, but it is true. Atomic clocks carried on airliners have shown the effect, even though the speed of jets is only a millionth that of light.



Prof Hawking

But if we travelled into the future, could we come back? This is a much knottier question. Looked at from the point of view of Einstein's theory of general relativity, Professor Hawking said, it isn't entirely impossible. Relativity combines space and time into spacetime, which can be distorted in various ways. These distortions explain, among other things, the force of gravity.

But what if spacetime were so distorted that it bent back on itself? This might provide more than one way of getting from one point to another. While time travelled by the normal route, we might take the short-cut and get there before it. By outpacing light, we would travel back in time. Solutions to Einstein's equations suggest that such "closed time-like curves" could exist.

If so, travelling back in time is not forbidden by relativity. But nobody knows how CTCs could be created, and if they existed naturally they would be found in awkward places such as right next to a black hole. A CTC forbids you to go back further than the moment of its creation, which explains why no travellers from the future have yet visited us.

The limitation on CTCs, and the reason why Professor Hawking doubts they are a practicable means of travel, are set by quantum theory. While they might allow time travel by subatomic particles, the same would not be true of objects as large as human beings, he said.

For all that, he believes the idea well worth investigating — as a number of people have already done.



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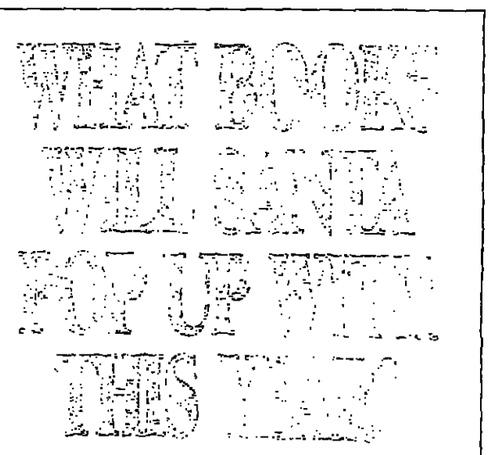
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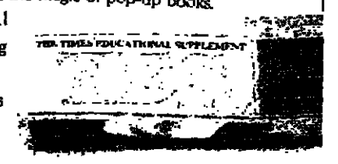


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YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO IGNORE IT

هكذا من الاصل

Gillian Bowditch on the Jewish pensioner whose sado-masochistic pictures of nudes continue to shock

'Every great photographer is a voyeur'



REX FEATURES

Helmut Newton and his wife: "After my heart attack, I thought I'd photograph what I like. I don't photograph things I think are ugly"

For a man who has produced some of the most shocking images of the 20th century, Helmut Newton is remarkably unprepossessing. A trifle trendier than most 75-year-old pensioners perhaps, but in his jeans, white sneakers and casual jacket he mingles easily with the crowds of shoppers on Glasgow's Sauchiehall Street.

He has just been addressing a packed audience of students from the Glasgow School of Art. Demonstrations had been expected but the feminists are sitting demurely at the back of the lecture hall. How can they heckle this nice old man who is taking the time to give them sound career advice?

It is only when the images start appearing on the screen that Newton's lecture becomes disquieting. Naked women chained up, naked women making love to shop mannequins, naked women in surgical corsets and splints, naked women with giant men and just plain naked women.

Newton is going through his obsessions as if he is telling a doctor a list of symptoms: stiletto heels; underarm hair; bondage; half open doors; lesbianism and masochism. The by-products of the obsessions, dubbed "porno-chic", are up there on the screen.

"I'm obsessed with store dummies. I did a lot of photographs with them which were pretty dubious," Newton says. "I'm amazed I got them published. Because it was dummies I got away with it. I would never have got away with it if it had been real people. I've got lots of Barbie dolls at home. I've always thought I'd photograph them doing unspeakable things but I've never got round to it.

"I have an obsession with surgical corsets but they are difficult to come by. I went to the orthopaedic hospital in Paris. The head doctor was interested in my work and said take what you like."

The problem for Newton was that the surgical corsets and calipers were mostly in small sizes (he likes big women — "I don't like the anorexic look") so in order to fulfil his obsession he travelled with the corsets in a suitcase, looking for small models who would fit them and whom he could persuade to be photographed wearing them.

> 'It's a craft. I get nervous if people talk about art'

The result is a series of extremely disturbing photographs. Newton says: "I have had letters from women in wheelchairs thanking me for making them look beautiful."

Incongruity has been hallmark of his life. Born in Berlin in 1920, into a wealthy Jewish family, the twin influences in his early years were Naziism and the glossy fashion magazines such as *Vogue* and *Berliner Illustrite Zeitung*, to which his mother subscribed.

Drugs and alcohol were unknown vices to the young Helmut and his friends. Instead, he indulged in sexual daydreams. The naked woman opening her coat is a recurring theme in his work.

"Although I am a Jew, I was brought up in Nazi Germany and I was fascinated by the imagery around in the propaganda films and in the newspapers. The Nazis influenced my work. I have been accused of being a fascist photographer," he says.

"The images you grow up with are a huge storage in your head and you draw on it. I show my own world in my photographs rather than a world I have nothing to do with."

But despite the complexities of his early life, Newton was single-minded about his ambition. "I always wanted to be a photographer," he says. "I was very ready to prostitute any talent I had. In the early days I photographed babies' layettes and weddings, which I hated. Money is very important. We live in a capitalist society and money allows you freedom."

Money is no longer an issue, of course, and Newton says he has enough money to allow him to do just what he wants. "In the 1970s I had a heart attack. I thought I was going to die. When I came out of it I thought I would only do what I wanted to do."

Not that anyone was twisting his arm to photograph the sado-masochistic nudes. "I photograph what I like. I don't photograph things I think are ugly." Newton has always set the agenda even if his clients then took his photographs and used them in tacky catalogues advertising DIY products.

"I call myself an old-fashioned photographer. The product is untampered with. I do no retouching and I hardly ever crop a photograph. I need a brief and a deadline. I am not an artist. I am a photographer. I think it's a craft. I get very nervous when people talk about art," he says.

All the photographs are staged and Newton carries around a notebook in which he writes detailed descriptions of what he wants to photograph. "The people I work with — models, make-up people, hairdressers — cost a lot of money and I don't come cheap either. If I wait for a divine spark I won't have any customers left."

Despite his age, he has no plans to retire but in many ways the 1990s are a more difficult decade than the 1970s or 1980s when he did some of his most shocking work.

"I hate the words 'politically correct'. That's the lowest thing we've come to. I can't find enough words to express my distaste for this. It's like my boyhood in Nazi Germany — it's just as bad."

Nostalgia is another *bête noire*. "Why is everyone so obsessed with the 1960s? It's the ugliest period I've seen. It's very easy to go back but where is the creativity in that?"

Voyeurism is something he will own up to. "That comes with the territory. Every great photographer is a voyeur. If he denies it he is a liar or a fool." So is there anything he would not do? He says he does not photograph hard pornography, at least not for money. "I made myself do hard porn, not with models, but with friends. I found it difficult; it doesn't interest me. I hate the phrase 'good taste'. It's the worst thing that can happen to a creative person."

Occasionally the brief outrages even him. "I was in Japan to do a book three years ago. After a day I didn't want to do it. I was too timid. The model made me go through with it. She dragged me through it and broke down my defences. This has happened to me three times in my life.

"It's a difficult thing when you can't deliver the goods. I always feel under pressure to come up with something new. I'm working mainly for just one magazine now [*Vogue*]. I don't have enough ideas to go round any more."

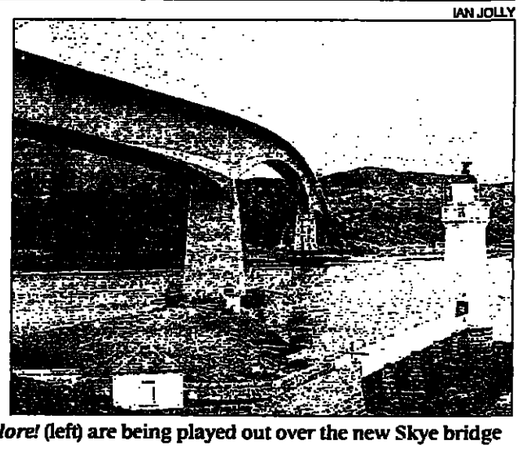
Inspiration is never that far away, however. He is a keen observer of people in cafés, on the beach, in the street. "My wife says 'don't stare Helmut' but I can't help it."

Islanders v bureaucrats in a classic comedy

Magnus Linklater reviews the story so far in a Scottish farce



RONALD GRANT



IAN JOLLY

Scenes reminiscent of Compton Mackenzie's *Whisky Galore!* (left) are being played out over the new Skye bridge

Protests tend to be grim and rancorous affairs these days. There are places, however, where they can still be conducted with good humour and a dash of wit, which can prove every bit as effective as rage.

The campaign being waged by the islanders of Skye against toll charges on their brand new bridge is developing along lines which would sit well on the pages of a novel by Compton Mackenzie. The cast-list has obstinate islanders, frustrated officials, warm-hearted policemen and local heroes: it should be filmed in black and white, with Alastair Sim as the man from the ministry. Whether it will have a traditional Ealing Comedy ending, with a whisky-drenched ceilidh in the village hall, remains to be seen.

It began on the day the bridge opened. The private company which financed its construction and has imposed a range of tariffs to pay for it — — £4.30 for a car, £37.50 for a coach, making it the most expensive in Britain — hired the local pipe band at considerable expense to salute this great occasion. The protesters, most of whom had boycotted the ceremony, bided their time until the Secretary of State and his officials had left, then commandeered the band. A Highland reel was danced on the parking lot, then the band turned round and, with pipes skirling, led a procession of 25 cars back across the bridge.

Next day, the 25 cars were back, each driver resolutely refusing to pay the tolls and demanding to be arrested. The police were called, and after much consultation — and considerable frustration from other drivers waiting to cross legitimately — a decision was taken to charge them with obstruction but allow them to cross. This they did, then promptly turned round and demanded to be charged again. With notebooks overflowing and the rain teeming down, the local bobbies finally gave up and waved the stragglers through. Over the next few weeks cars and lorries criss-crossed the bridge, collecting charges rather than paying them. So far none has come to court, though the procurator-fiscal in Dingwall is hoping to deal with the back-log next month.

Other tactics have been adopted. A van from the Aberdeen-Celtic Association decided to pay the toll in pennies. It took half an hour to count them out. A bus from the Charles Rennie Mackintosh School of Architecture paid with an 8ft by 4ft cheque. It was accepted. A lady whose house overlooks the Kyleakin end of the bridge has given permission for a billboard which greets arriving motorists with a variety of messages such as "They have might, we have right", "A bridge too far", or "Should you decide to pay today, for ever more the toll will stay" (there is general agreement that this last one needs a bit more work).

> The tactics for sheep show a perfect Celtic symmetry

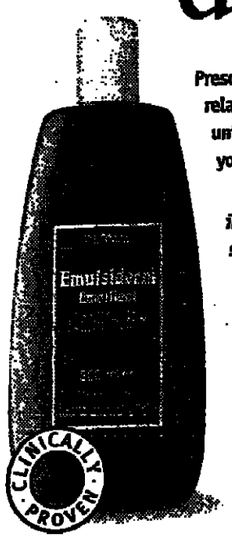
But it is the transport of livestock which has caused most outrage, and led to the most imaginative tactics. The company argues that the cost of crossing the bridge is no more expensive than using MacBrayne's ferry used to be. But as so often in the Highlands, nothing is quite what it seems. It appears that MacBrayne's used to turn a blind eye to regular users. A sheep lorry using the ferry would be charged the full fare one way, but allowed the return journey free. The bridge exacts a full toll both ways and the extra cost can be as much as the annual subsidy for a single sheep. So local crofters have come up with a toll-beating scheme which involves a lorry with a full load of sheep driving up to the toll-booth, unloading its bleating passengers, driving them across the bridge — which is free for pedestrians, whether two or four-footed — then loading them into a waiting vehicle on the other side. This has a perfect Celtic symmetry about it, and is recounted by both sides with every evidence of satisfaction.

Less happy is Sir Iain Noble, the chairman of the Skye Bridge Company, who has, somewhat reluctantly, been cast as the villain of the piece. Not only is he a long-time Skye resident and an extremely nice man, but he is also the manufacturer of the best malt on the island, Poit Dhubh (Black Pot). Now, however, he is caught in the flak, and the campaigners have struck a low blow: they are boycotting the Poit Dhubh and asking shop-owners to remove it from their shelves. This is self-denial on an heroic scale, and the campaigners are a little uneasy, but they say that Sir Iain's crime is not only to have accepted the chairmanship in the first place, but to have argued in a letter to the papers that without private finance the bridge might not have been built for a generation. He has also questioned whether it is right for the protest to be led by two local councillors who sit on the Highland Regional Council, which approved the private financing of the bridge in the first place. "It's a bit illogical," he says mildly.

"Not at all," says Gavin Scott-Moncrieff, the Scottish Nationalist councillor who is masterminding the campaign. "We have a new council and it's a very different animal." And he adds: "They would never have let this happen in Peterborough." There is an unassailable logic to that, though it may need a large measure of Poit Dhubh to sort it out.

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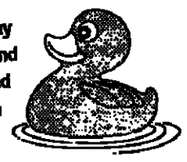
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Matthew Parris



■ Learning science ought to foster openness, but instead it seems to result in narrow mindedness

Why do scientists tend to be conformists? This question struck me, not for the first time, when talking last week to a gay and lesbian student group at Imperial College, London. Though exotically named, the "Imperial Queers" seemed anything but outcasts: just pleasant, bright undergraduates such as you might meet at any good university.

Except that Imperial College is not typical. It is a science-based institution. The arts and language students who compose a goodly proportion of most student bodies in Britain are missing. Imperial is peopled exclusively by those whom, when I was an undergraduate, we used to call "grey men", but who now include plenty of women too.

Nor were my group grey. I asked them whether, ridiculous as it might seem, the dominance of a scientifically-orientated student culture caused their group to meet a greater degree of prejudice at Imperial.

My question was treated as ridiculous indeed, the answer being so clearly yes. Scientists were much more prejudiced. Some of the group felt it quite a struggle to be open about their sexuality in this environment. Their numbers were small, and when they put up posters, these were often torn down. They envied the openness of the ethos in colleges where not all the students are studying the sciences.

> Darwin was better supported by the world of letters than by fellow scientists

And I reflected that it is not just in matters of sexuality, but across the whole of our culture, and in questions of learning *and science*, as well as questions of lifestyle, that scientists as a human group seem disproportionately timid and deferential to conventional wisdom. Why? Shouldn't the scientific method liberate individuals from prejudice?

It should, but it does not. The role of science in mankind's struggle throughout history against myth and prejudice is actually rather disgraceful. You might expect scientists to have been in the forefront of resistance to the authority of the Church and the long march out of the Dark Ages, but with a few exceptions such as Copernicus and Galileo, science generally sided with religion to reinforce the latter's teachings.

Such writers as Hobbes, Voltaire and Swift, and philosophers such as David Hume proved braver in their scepticisms than the career practitioners of the "scientific" approach to learning, which free-thinkers through the ages have idealised. Darwin got better and earlier support from the world of letters than the ranks of fellow scientists. Bertrand Russell was more likely to find denizens of the world of the arts than those in the sciences prepared to co-sign letters to *The Times*.

The role of science in the reinforcement of cruel but popular myths about race is a dark story. The role of science in reinforcing theories of the inferiority of women is disappointing. The role of medicine in the stigmatisation of mental illness in centuries past has been shameful. The role of medical science and of psychiatry in the stigmatisation of homosexuality earlier this century, especially in America, was odious.

And there is a strange absence of sceptical scientific heads above the parapet in all the modern media myth which now surrounds the issue of drugs. Why are the ideals of vigorous doubt, of the testing of hypotheses, of the careful examination of hidden assumptions, and of eagerness to think the unthinkable feeblest within the very discipline which is supposed to be the exemplar of these attitudes?

I put this question to the Imperial Queers. Their response was unanimous. Whatever the philosophy of the science, the reality for its students is of a narrow and focused adherence to a single line of study. Those who try to range beyond it or question the fundamentals on which it is based are looked upon as odd. Just keep your eyes down and *learn* it, damn it. By comparison with an arts syllabus (someone added) there is so much hard graft for a science student: and in later life as a scientist or engineer, the sheer complexity and volume of work tend to bring their eyes in from the horizon to the task in hand. Though the scientific ideal suggests free rein for the intuitive, in practice scientists have to be methodical.

I understand this. But why, in my undergraduate days, did the scientists wear Bri-Nylon shirts? Even at school one could see some sort of cultural divide beginning to open. Why, so often, does the unadventurous personality or cautious intellect incline in the first place to science? Shouldn't a readiness to step outside the ruling belief-system qualify us for — rather than disqualify us from — the pursuit of science? Is the discipline attracting too many of the wrong kinds of minds? Does its practice reward or punish intellectual and moral timidity? Why was it explorers and not scientists who pushed hardest against the belief that the Earth was flat?

I cannot answer these questions. They concern a world in which I am not at home and into which I no doubt tread clumsily. I may have framed them wrongly or wandered off-target. But I think there is something in my worries. I was grateful to the valiant Imperial Queers for making me reflect on this.

John Redwood says his party has let public spending rise by a third. Now it must rein back

Tories must fulfil their tax promises

Just under a year ago, the Government forecast its total public spending at £312 billion for 1996-97. When the Cabinet met this summer, we were told the spending totals could not be reduced, even though this represented an increase of £10 billion, or 3.1 per cent. I disagreed. I thought there were easy ways of reducing this total without touching a single nurse, doctor, teacher, policeman or soldier. Ministers have been concentrating on the new control total, which at £262.8 billion for next year is only a part of the story.

If I and my wife sit down to work out our family budget for next year, we do not look at just part of the budget and ignore the rest. Nor do we start with the idea that everything we want to spend has to be spent. We certainly don't believe that everything we have been spending this year is essential. Yet these are the assumptions that so often underlie discussion in the Government about public spending. The arcane system is based on looking at only part of spending, rather than the total, and assumes that everything currently being spent has to be spent in a future year. The debate is about the wish-list of additional things that the Government might like to spend money on in an ideal world.

Shortly after the summer Cabinet had confirmed £312 billion as the necessary, immutable and irreducible figure for public spending next year, the Treasury published its summer forecast. This cut plans for spending next year by £2.1 billion. It also increased spending on debt by £700 million, and lowered the forecast of likely tax receipts. This occurred with no reference to the Cabinet. It provoked no press release, no debate in Parliament and no newspaper interest.

So there we had it. A £2.1 billion cut in public spending with no blood on the carpet. In the meantime, if we believe what we read in the papers, we now have a massive argument going on about £3 billion of cuts with lurid stories of blood everywhere. It was very painful to reduce the accounting adjustments by £700 million. It was relatively painless to put in another £1 billion for privatisation proceeds based on the likely sale of the nuclear industry. It was good news to reduce the planned cyclical social security spending by £400 million, in recognition of the fact that more people have jobs and will not be claiming benefit. This was how the magic cuts of the summer were achieved without a shot being fired or a Cabinet minister being consulted.

It's time to have more of the same. Instead of the Cabinet meeting solemnly to discuss reductions in programmes and debating furiously whether the pressure should be put this year on defence, or the environment, or housing, or some other cherished area of public-sector life, the Cabinet should meet to discuss Government. It should assume that we need all the teachers, doctors, nurses, policemen and soldiers that we currently have. But it should not assume that we need all the administrators, office buildings, consultants and glossy brochures that we currently pay for. Why are there 7 million sq ft of empty offices owned or rented by the Government? Why are thousands of empty houses owned in the name of the National Health Service or the Ministry of Defence? Why do central and local government between them spend over £1 billion a year on consultancy and advertising? Why do most of the lights blaze in government buildings long after the civil servants have gone home? Why if you write to a government department do you get a holding reply before the proper answer?

These are just a few questions that go to the heart of why public spending is so massively high and how it could be reduced without damaging the important public-sector services. Since 1979, public spending has quadrupled. In the last year of the Labour Government, it was £75 billion. This year it will be more than £300 billion. Even after allowing for inflation that is an increase of 35 per cent. Every year there has been talk of reducing public spending, and every year the total has risen.

For this Budget I do not propose that public spending should actually be cut, but instead of putting it up by £9 billion, the Government should limit the increase to £4 billion.

My proposals for reducing spending totals by £5 billion combine reductions in waste, reductions in unnecessary expenditure and some measures to replace public spending by private provision. It would not be right to achieve public expenditure reductions by a massive attack on capital spending: the country needs some public investment. It would certainly not be right to achieve reductions by a renewed assault on the military establishment: we have already made big cuts in our forces in the past ten years. Current plans show that by 1997, Royal Navy uniform manpower will be 35 per cent lower than in 1985. Army manpower will be 34 per cent down and Air Force manpower 39 per cent down.

We should look elsewhere. Increase the amount of private money going into housing association developments. Raise substantial sums of money by selling unused and empty homes and offices. Clamp down on the massive social security fraud. The public sector could run with considerably less consultancy advice, fewer glossy brochures, fewer advertisements and no quango administrators. Why are accounting adjustments forecast to go up by almost £1 billion in the current year? Couldn't the Treasury issue more index-linked stock and National Savings, both cheaper ways to borrow?

Armed with £5 billion of spending reductions, the Chancellor could then start to put right the nation's taxation. In 1992, people voted for a Tory Government on a manifesto of keeping taxes down. As two of the prime planks of his Budget, the Chancellor should remove VAT on fuel and should restore mortgage interest relief. The money remaining from the £5 billion reduction should be spent on increasing income tax allowances. These should be especially generous towards married couples taking responsibility for their own children.

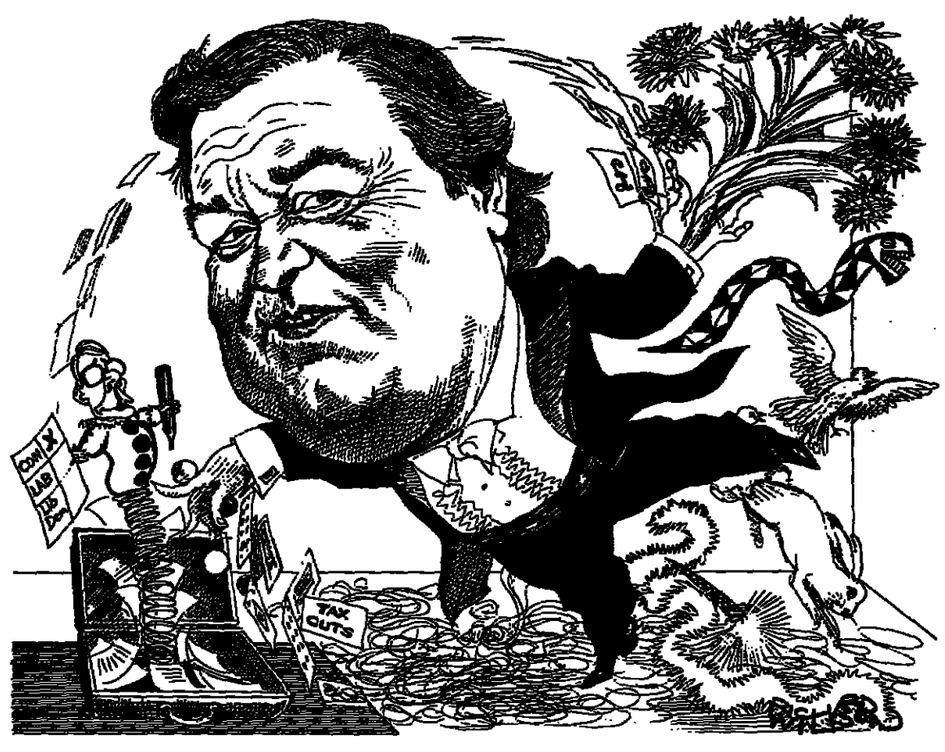
The Government has to show that it is once again interested in homeowners, in families and in the lower paid who are struggling to take responsibility for their own lives. The message of recent Budgets has been that the Government is no longer serious about controlling public spending, and that it is no longer looking after all those decent people who pay their bills and their taxes on time and look to a Conservative Government to defend their interests.

With the Conservatives languishing at 20-25 per cent in the opinion polls, and Labour up to 40 points ahead, it is time for drastic action. A political recovery can be built only upon a first-class Budget. That Budget has to send a clear message to the nation that the Conservative Party has listened and understood. It has to show the nation that Conservatives once again believe in home-owners who take care of themselves and their families and who go out to work to earn a decent living.

The author is MP for Wokingham.

Just a short-term affair

The Budget will be a classic pre-election bluff, says **Peter Riddell**



Winning the cheers of Tory MPs tomorrow afternoon will be the easy part for Kenneth Clarke. Any half-competent Chancellor — and Mr Clarke is much more than that — should be able to present a package of tax cuts which pleases his own party. However, producing a Budget which looks economically credible in six months' time, and which addresses strategic choices over the size of the public sector is much harder: indeed, is highly improbable.

Pre-election Budgets seldom look good in retrospect. Invariably, they rest on over-optimistic assumptions, so risks are taken with public spending or taxation, or both, and corrective action has to be taken after the election. The classic example was in 1955 when R.A. Butler blemished his reputation as Chancellor. He handed out tax reliefs "in the middle of a raging boom" in his April Budget, a month before the election, only to take back "the greater part of his earlier reliefs" six months later in an emergency autumn Budget, as Sir Samuel Brittan records in his classic book *Steering the Economy*.

Four years later, the usually cautious Derick Heathcoat Amory was persuaded by Harold Macmillan to enlarge the cut in income tax in his pre-election Budget from 2½p to 3¾p in post-decimalisation money. That again stoked up an already expanding economy.

The same pattern of giving and then taking back has been repeated in what may be called the modern era (that is since 1979), even though Keynesian fine-tuning of the economy has officially been abandoned. Nigel Lawson recalls in his memoir *The View from Number 11* that the urgent difficulty he faced on becoming Chancellor in June 1983 was "a very worrying surge in public expenditure. If uncorrected it would have meant increases in taxation or borrowing, or both. The pressure stemmed from the usual tendency to enter into new public spending commitments in the run-up to an election." The result was a spending squeeze across Whitehall, announced within weeks of the election.

A far greater relaxation occurred before the 1992 election. Sarah Hogg and Jonathan Hill acknowledge in their book *Too Close to Call* that the length of the pre-election period and the change of Prime Ministers, with their different priorities, proved to be expensive. The announcement in November 1990 of an £8 billion increase in spending plans for 1991-92 was followed a year later by a £5.6 billion rise for 1992-93, and much more in later years. Only part of this was due to the recession and an unexpected rise in demand for social benefits. The Government deliberately choose to raise spending, particularly on health, as well as on education and transport, before the election. Even according to Treasury estimates, such decisions may have accounted for £8 to £10 billion of the jump in public borrowing in the early 1990s. This was, admittedly, dwarfed by the impact of the recession and by a large shortfall in tax receipts, but still the specific pre-election spending decisions have had to be paid for by the big tax rises of the past two years.

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

The current position is different in one crucial respect. The pressure for relaxation is all on the tax side, rather than the spending side. The danger is not that the spending plans announced tomorrow will be too high, but, rather, that they will be implausibly low for a pre-election year. All the signs are that the bulk of savings will come from a further squeeze on administrative costs and from cuts in capital programmes. Both are unachievable in the long-term.

Of course, there is always scope to cut waste and to improve efficiency. But running costs have already been frozen in cash terms for more than two years, and existing plans imply a cut of 10 per cent in real terms between 1993-94 and 1997-98. A further squeeze now could affect standards of services and lead to union attempts later on to recoup their position by boosting public-sector earnings.

Mr Clarke is likely to make much of the expansion of the Private Finance Initiative as an alternative to sharply reduced public financing of capital projects. But a lot of baloney is talked about the initiative's role in attracting private cash and in the management of infrastructure and capital projects. Not only has the initiative failed to live up to expectations so far, but, despite all the possible gains from the use of private expertise, it is essentially a way of deferring the need for taxpayers to finance such investments. This can only be avoided if charges are introduced, as with road and motorway tolls, but this does not apply in, say, the health service.

Public spending can only be held down in the long run if the Government shifts costs of provision to the private sector. This has been happening in social security to a limited extent, notably with pensions. But otherwise there has been a pretence that the current structure of public services can be maintained while taxes are cut at the same time. This illusion has been exposed by Robert Skidelsky, Norman Lamont and, most recently, Nicholas Bosanquet in his paper for the Social Market Foundation, *Public Spending into the Millennium*.

Professor Bosanquet argues that many of the supply-side changes of the past decade — such as the Citizen's Charter and the introduction of the internal market in the health service — have increased the demand for higher standards and for increased spending. This creates the danger of a rise in the share of government expenditure as a proportion of national wealth, and hence a rise in taxation to unacceptable levels, unless much more radical solutions are considered for limiting taxpayer financing.

Consequently, the real questions about tomorrow's tax cuts are not whether they are big enough to win back former Tory voters, but whether they reflect genuine cuts in the size of the public sector, and whether they are compatible with a continuing decline in public borrowing. I am a sceptic on both counts. Indeed, even to talk about tax cuts may be misleading. Any reduction in income tax is certain to be only a fraction of the big tax rises of the past two years and may only be sufficient to prevent a further rise in the share of national income taken by taxes.

Mr Clarke is unlikely to be reckless tomorrow. After all, he will probably be delivering another Budget in a year's time, and he will not want to jeopardise hopes of a reduction in interest rates. But the political pressures from behind him to cut taxes regardless of the long-term costs are likely to produce a Budget of smoke and mirrors.

Inside job

THE GOVERNMENT has found a successor for Judge Stephen Tumim, one of Michael Howard's more outspoken critics, as Chief Inspector of Prisons. He is a military man, General Sir David Ramsbotham, who was the Army's top personnel officer until 1993.

Nicknamed "Rambo", Sir David is by all accounts a colourful individual who brooks no fools. "He was brilliant at politics within the MoD, and has always been a forceful character," says an Army source. "He doesn't take any nonsense: he won't be a soft touch for the Government."



Ramsbotham: no nonsense

Rambo is nevertheless fondly regarded by his Army colleagues, and remembered for the idiosyncratic red cravat he invariably wore on the field of battle. He is not averse to criticising the Government, and has been outspoken in condemning defence cuts.

Judge Tumim, who took issue with government policy before his retirement this month, is known to be casting around for a high-profile post, and would enjoy being a head of house at Oxford or Cambridge. There are moves already to put him up as Principal of St Edmund's Hall, Oxford.

Ken:Budg:11

THE CHANCELLOR'S life will never be the same again. Reaction to his Budget, which traditionally pours in by letter, telephone, and fax will now be co-ordinated on the Internet for the first time.

The Treasury has been targetted by APCO UK, an American firm of political lobbyists based in London, who are specialists in "cyber-lobbying". The company has set up a postbox on the Internet which will direct e-mail to the Treasury. It will be activated the moment the Chancellor sits down at the end of his Budget speech tomorrow, and with more than three million Internet users in Britain, the Treasury computers could be working overtime. First on screen is the Fair Smoking Campaign, which has taken up a site where surfing smokers can add their weight to protests about the level of tobacco taxation — which currently stands at 77 per cent on a packet of 20.



"My wife left me when she found out I voted yes"

THE TIMES DIARY

● *The Internet may have a reputation as being for computer-nerds, but some contributors are trying to raise the game. One so-called home page beckons: "Pagina Domestica P. Virgil Maronis: Why watch Oprah when you can join a discussion of Virgil's* Aeneid*?"*

Up trumps

ONE OF Evelyn Waugh's best known conversational weapons, his ear-trumpet is about to come on the London auction market. The object epitomised Waugh's pomposity in his later years at his home, Combe Florey in Somerset.

He often deployed it to devastating effect, as on the well-known occasion he ostentatiously put down the trumpet when Malcolm Muggeridge was speaking at a literary lunch. Evelyn's son Auberon parted with the artefact recently for Royal Society of Literature appeal. "He did have a far nicer one which disappeared," he said yesterday. Also at Sotheby's will be one of John Mortimer's barrister's wigs.

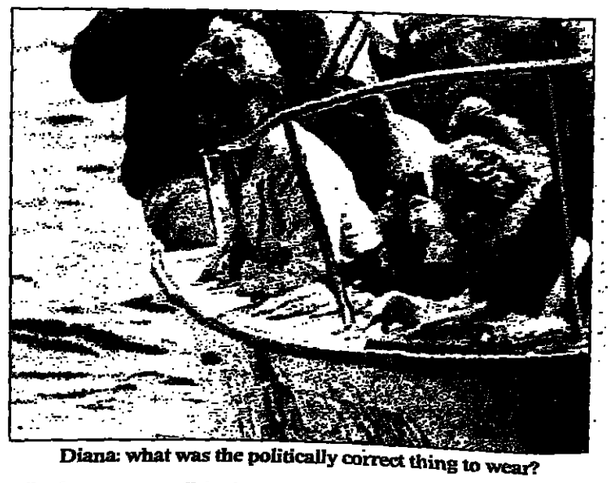
Smashing time

HAZY MEMORIES of foreign protocol come from the bustling MP for Edgbaston, Dame Jill Knight, in her new book *About the House*. In 1967, she was one of a delegation to Russia, and she recounts the meal at the Kremlin.

Her mistake was to take a sip of vodka, then resume her seat. A stentorian monsyllable split the air: "YOU!!" bellowed a comrade. "You have insult . . . *Finish* drink." She did, nervously, only to be refilled — eight times. "To tell the truth, I do not normally have eight vodkas at lunch," she explains. By the end she was so drunk that she smashed her crystal glass. "Every man rose to his feet to toast to me. After that, I cheerfully smashed my way round the Soviet Union."

Splashing time

PICTURES of the Princess of Wales gamely leaning over the rails of a catamaran off the Argentinian coast as a pair of Southern Right whales frolicked alongside has caused consternation at the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. Diana was one of the few trippers who refused to wear a safety jacket.



Diana: what was the politically correct thing to wear?

"It's a good idea for people to wear the equipment that is offered," harrumphs the society. "And on open and unpredictable water on any kind of trip, one would expect everybody to be suitably equipped."

The Princess refused to don her orange lifejacket on diplomatic grounds, apparently. It would have clashed with the pale blue suit and white top that she was wearing — the colours of the Argentinian flag.

P·H·S

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BUDGET CALCULUS

A rash Budget could turn into an electoral trap for the Tories

Even if it offered every voter a complete tax holiday for the next 18 months, tomorrow's Budget could not overnight revive the Conservative Party's fortunes. At this stage in the political cycle, it would nevertheless be unrealistic to expect anything other than a highly political Budget this year. Kenneth Clarke is certain to come up with the biggest package of tax cuts seen since Nigel Lawson's 1988 Budget. Probably the Chancellor will go much further than the £3 billion in net tax reductions now expected in the financial markets and the Westminster backbenches. According to the latest reckoning done by our Economics Editor, John Redwood appears to have been right in the calculations he published during the Tory leadership elections, when he argued that the Treasury could find enough spending economies to pay for a tax cut of £5 billion.

The Budget cheers will quickly turn to groans if the Chancellor takes excessive financial risks to buy some favourable Budget headlines. The first question to ask in judging the Budget will be whether he has found enough genuine spending cuts to pay for the lower taxes and still keep the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement moving quickly towards zero. However much he cuts taxes, he must reduce public spending plans by up to £2 billion more. If he fails to do this, his Budget will justifiably be seen by financial markets as an irresponsible pre-election gamble. The consequent financial crisis and increase in interest rates would guarantee a Tory rout.

Fortunately, Mr Clarke seems to be well aware of these risks, as well as possessing a higher sense of public service than some of the backbenchers who have urged him to go for broke. The chances are, therefore, that any tax cuts will be more than matched by reductions in spending.

The key questions in that case will be whether the spending economies are fair and genuine — and whether the Budget tax cuts are sensibly and efficiently deployed. On the first point, there will doubtless be much cynical comment about the Chancellor "raiding" the Treasury's contingency reserve and using "creative accounting" to transfer large chunks of the public capital spending programme to the Private Finance Initiative (PFI). These criticisms are likely to be unfounded. To refuse to allocate the funds set aside for unexpected contingency to spending ministers is a legitimate way of saving money. Expanding the PFI is desirable in its own right and does genuinely reduce the demands on taxpayers' money. The Chancellor would do well to push both approaches as far as possible.

The distribution of tax cuts will be judged by economists in terms of what it does to improve work incentives and move people off the dole. Politicians would be wise to focus on the same features, but will also inevitably consider another question. What will the tax cuts do for the middle-income floating voters who will determine the outcome of the election and who have been particularly hard-hit by the tax increases of the last three years? Both of these ways of assessing tax policy broadly coincide.

The way to increase incentives is to restore the value of personal allowances or, as a second best, to widen the 20p tax bracket. To cut the standard rate of tax would be least efficient, as an incentive and in restoring income to those hardest hit since 1992. Instead, the Chancellor should spend the money he has on a balanced package, including tax rates, bands and allowances.

The alternative is to announce a big cut — as high as 3p — in the standard rate. That might look attractive, but it could prove a political boomerang. To focus all attention on the standard rate might make it easier for Labour to argue that the Tories' long-term strategy is simply to raise indirect taxes inexorably, using this money for cuts in the standard tax rate which favour the rich.

BAD EUROPEANS

The EU is foolishly dragging its feet on enlargement

Since 1989, the prospect of European Union membership has been a critically important source of encouragement and stability to the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe. With only a few exceptions, they have now got past the wrenching early stages of political, social and painful economic reform. But if they hope to see their reward at the Madrid summit next month, they are due for a disappointment. In Western capitals the statesmanlike language of 1989, with its visions of stabilising the European continent, is being drowned out by the miserly discourse of accountants. Even Helmut Kohl, their erstwhile champion who made eastward enlargement of the EU a pillar of his "Agenda 2000" for Europe, has begun to beat a retreat.

To the peoples of these countries, footdragging by the EU will be hard to understand and harder to forgive. Compared with the countries of the former Soviet Union, they have taken convincingly to democracy, even if nationalists on the Right and post-communists on the Left command a worryingly high degree of popular support. Compared with Western Europe's record in tackling its own, far less demanding, challenges of restructuring their economic and social progress has been astonishing. Most are now growing at around 5 per cent a year, the task of macro-economic stabilisation is well advanced and their conversion to free market economies is reckoned by the World Bank to have passed the point of no return.

With the odd exception — intemperately-governed Slovakia springs to mind — they can therefore fairly claim to be on track to meet the standards of democracy and free markets set as entry requirements by EU leaders in Copenhagen in June 1993. They are eager to open negotiations on EU accession. Five — Hungary, Poland, Romania, Latvia and Slovakia — already have their formal applications in: the Czech Republic is due to lodge its own in January, and at least four others will follow suit.

Yet when the leaders of these countries arrive in Madrid, they will find EU heads of government too preoccupied with internal arguments to give them a hearing. Western leaders may say that they understand the geopolitical imperative of enlargement, but they are demonstrably unwilling to do anything about it. Last week Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, called for a pledge at Madrid to open talks in 1998 — after the conclusion of the inter-governmental conference to revise the Maastricht treaty. But this is almost certainly posturing; Spain has shown no evidence that it either expects, or really wants, a firm timetable.

As for Germany, Herr Kohl is running shy of Bavaria's cosseted farmers. Disgracefully but significantly, Germany even joined France last week to cut by half a modest Commission proposal to ease EU barriers against East-West trade in farm products. He has begun to float the idea of "partial" membership for the Central Europeans which rightly consider themselves to have earned a place at the head of the queue. This would offer them some say in common foreign and justice policies — which Germany wants to promote — but deny them any of the solid economic benefits of belonging to the EU's single market. To British protests, Bonn rejoins that if Britain wants enlargement it must sign up to the maximalist Kohl agenda for EU reform. John Major's hard task at Madrid is to shame Herr Kohl out of diluting, for shortsighted political gain, the EU's great mission for the millenium.

A CAUSE FOR CHRISTMAS

Childhood cancer is being defeated



Not every worthwhile charity supports a desperate cause. Some of the best build on notable successes, encouraging proven initiative, bringing to fruition projects well under way, capitalising on medical advances to eliminate or greatly reduce suffering. Causes where donations can reinforce a winning trend are often the most satisfying: rather than feel that their contribution is a mere drop in a boundless ocean of suffering, donors know that their generosity can make a real difference. This Christmas, *The Times* is supporting one such charity: the children's cancer unit at the Royal Marsden Hospital in Sutton. A small, well-managed fund, it builds on the extraordinary recent advances in the treatment of children with cancer.

The latest figures show that two thirds of children who contract this terrible illness now recover. Thanks to well-targeted research, doctors now have drugs and treatment available which have been remarkably effective in increasing survival rates. Much of the improvement has come from the kind of specialised research conducted by the Royal Marsden. Its paediatric unit is adjacent to the Institute of Cancer Research, and the hospital expects all its staff to be actively engaged in research themselves.

Staffing levels must necessarily be higher than usual if such cross-fertilisation of theory and practice is to be best effected, and it is to support this that the hospital rebuilt its specialist unit three years ago. Whatever improvements in treatment result will naturally benefit adult cancer patients as well.

Yet however much the picture has brightened in the past decade, cancer is still a deadly threat to children. After road accidents, it is the biggest killer of children under 15, and some 40 per cent of the 1,200 who contract the disease each year still die of it. About a third suffer from leukaemia, another third from brain tumours and the rest from other cancers. The overall rates for the disease are not coming down: indeed the increase in carcinogens in the environment nowadays could mean that the battle against the disease will last many years yet.

There are 22 specialist centres in Britain dealing with cancer in children, under the umbrella organisation of the United Kingdom Children's Cancer Study Group. The Royal Marsden, which does not have the funds or appetite for an extensive publicity campaign, makes a valuable contribution. For any sufferer, the treatment for cancer can be painful and prolonged; for sick children in hospital over Christmas it is particularly tragic. Dedicated staff will do their utmost to bring cheer to the youngest patients; *The Times* appeal is to ensure that in the future as few children as possible ever find themselves in a cancer ward at this, or any, time of year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Press payments and the West case

From Mr Ian G. Inglis

Sir, The Lord Chancellor and the Attorney-General have initiated an inquiry into cheque-book journalism in the light of payments promised to certain witnesses in the trial of Mrs West (report, November 23). They should dust down their copies of the report of the Phillimore committee, of which I was a member, published in 1974, and refer in particular to paragraphs 78 and 79.

The committee concluded that the potential dangers of cheque-book journalism were "sufficiently grave to warrant further inquiry as to its prevalence and, if found necessary, legislation to restrain or wholly prohibit this practice". It recommended that any such prohibition should be a separate criminal offence rather than part of the law of contempt.

The report further noted that the Attorney-General in 1966, following the Moors murder case, announced that the Government would examine the problem.

While it is no doubt too much to expect the Government to explain why nothing has been done to meet what the Phillimore committee described as the "widespread and justifiable concern" expressed in 1966 and repeated in their report, it is hoped that urgent action will now be taken rather than wait another 30 years.

Yours faithfully,
IAN G. INGLIS,
Maclay Murray and Spens
(solicitors),
3 Glenfinlas Street,
Edinburgh 3.
November 24.

Last-minute Budget suggestions for the Chancellor

From Mr J. N. Bunker

Sir, With next Tuesday being Budget Day, it might be worthwhile to remind ourselves that the present welfare budget of £90 billion (letter, November 16) consumes more than the total raised each year in VAT, duties on fuel, tobacco and drink, betting and gaming taxes, customs and air-passenger duties, agricultural levies, and taxes on insurance premiums, capital gains and inheritance.

Yours faithfully,
J. NOEL BUNKER,
Croft Cottage,
Old Kiln Lane, Churt, Surrey.
November 23.

From Mr Anthony M. V. Coombs, MP for Wyre Forest (Conservative)

Sir, Nowhere is the Prime Minister's dictum that lower taxes encourage enterprise more apposite than in the overdue reform of capital taxes. At 40 per cent, capital gains tax is punitive, immensely complex and discourages investment by inhibiting capital disposals. Further, it yields less than the equivalent of a half penny of income tax.

A retrospective lower rate of 20 per cent on the disposal of assets held for at least three years would have four advantages.

First, it would encourage longer-term investment — a principle upon which even the Labour Party produced Finance Bill proposals in 1992.

Second, CGT could then be simplified by the phased abolition of the plethora of special reliefs and allowances introduced to mitigate its effects.

Third, such a reform would stimulate confidence and, indirectly, spending, particularly in the construction market.

Finally, it would even boost treasury revenues as owners realised pent-up gains and then traded more freely. The Chancellor must act boldly and imaginatively to reform CGT on Tuesday.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY COOMBS
(Secretary,
Conservative Parliamentary
Finance Committee),
House of Commons.
November 24.

From Mr S. Robert Hill

Sir, Anatole Kaletsky ("Brown breaks grey orthodoxy", Business, November 21) remarks that for too long the Treasury and the Institute of Fiscal Studies have pursued the orthodoxy of ever fewer income tax rates, allowances and bands. I would go further and say that these ideas are positively out of date.

With the present power of computers, and very much greater power in the immediate future, the tax efficiencies which greater flexibility brings are readily within our grasp.

It might well have been possible to argue that the manpower required to manually administer a many-banded tax system made that system inefficient, but the extra workload in a computer-based system is minor by comparison with the benefits.

Yours faithfully,
S. ROBERT HILL,
Douglasmuir, by Arbroath, Angus.
November 21.

From the Director General of the Automobile Association

Sir, You rightly identify (leading article, November 20) "prudent management of the nation's finances" as the Chancellor's priority for the Budget. But what about the prudent management of the nation's assets, in particular the transport infrastructure?

Last year Mr Clarke cut the transport budget by 30 per cent. Today there is talk of even bigger cuts to fund tax reductions. Yet daily the business of travelling, near or far, brings us face to face with the depressing results of poor planning and woeful under-investment.

UK investment in transport infrastructure sits at the bottom of the European league. Yet we are chart-toppers in our ability to waste money by planning and designing infrastructure that is never completed.

If Mr Clarke tries to screen further spending cuts and tax hikes by announcing a handful of privately funded roads under the "design, build, finance and operate" (DBFO) scheme he cannot pretend that these represent a fair return on the billions of pounds motorists pay on top of other taxes.

The AA has asked the Chancellor to announce a complete review of road taxation so that there is a fair system for funding transport that supports environmental and economic goals and lets transport policy deliver what is needed.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON DYER, Director General,
The Automobile Association,
Norfolk House, Priestley Road,
Basingstoke, Hampshire.

Teaching discipline

From Mrs Anneliese Berry

Sir, As a mother, I have been getting very exasperated regarding the recent discussions and "scientific findings" in respect of disciplining children [letters, November 23]. Is it really possible that intelligent people cannot distinguish between smacking and violence?

The argument that children learn physical violence by being subjected to violence is, in my opinion, equally spurious. While we need to encourage the good in children, the bad occasionally needs to be controlled by gentle physical correction if words are not effective — and we all know how stubborn and defiant young children can be.

I look forward to the day when common sense rules again in this matter. Meanwhile we need to sack most of our social scientists and "child experts"!

Yours faithfully,
ANNELIESE BERRY,
83 Oakley Park, Bexley, Kent.
November 17.

From Mr D. W. Cox

Sir, I began reading David Tytler's article ("Discipline brings results", Education, November 10) with a warm feeling of recognising some common sense at last. I then came upon the statement that this system, long practised in our once revered grammar schools, was developed in America twenty years ago.

I sincerely hope that no one will be silly enough to pay for a commercial course of training for teachers which propounds the long-established notion that to modify behaviour a "carrot and stick" approach, in the form of penalties and commendations, is effective.

Yours incredulously,
D. COX,
3 Laundry Lane,
Shaftesbury, Dorset.
November 17.

'Schools Week': basis of league tables faces examination

From Mr David Christopher Blair

Sir, According to Lord Henley, the Education and Employment Minister, the school league tables published today fulfil John Major's pledge to "give power back to parents and their children" (report, November 21). I cannot agree.

I have a son in whose ten GCSE passes I am well pleased but whose grant-maintained school did not allow him to study the A levels of his choice because they were not his easiest option and, as the career officer informed me, "happily the school can afford to pick and choose who it allows to enter each course". In my opinion this league table can only accurately record those schools which "pick and choose" the easy option for themselves. Until the tables reflect the amount of effort expended by staff, and governors, on behalf of students they will be of questionable value.

I heartily congratulate those schools which feature deservedly.

My son is now pursuing his chosen course of studies elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID CHRISTOPHER BLAIR,
12 Columbia Street,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
November 21.

From Mr Victor Serebriakoff

Sir, The heading to Ben Preston's article of November 21, "Getting better — but the gulf grows", is a glimpse of the obvious, a clear sign of average improvement. Some politicians use the widening of the gulf between the best achievement and the worst as a cause for complaint, but how could it be otherwise?

Children vary in ability, home background and motivation, and teachers vary in ability. All these factors create differences in examination results, producing the "gulf". If there is an improvement it must show itself first by better performance at the top of the range, where this mixture of factors happens to produce the most favourable results.

The better the educational system the greater will be the gulf between the best and the worst. The gulf is a positive sign, not a negative one. Even if the low-achievement end is rising the high-achievement end is likely to rise faster, still increasing the gulf.

Yours etc,
VICTOR SEREBRIAKOFF
(Founder, Mensa Foundation
for Gifted Children),
Flat One, 6 The Paragon, SE3.
November 22.

From the High Master of Manchester Grammar School

Sir, Your readers should be reminded that the Government's A-level league tables include General Studies, unlike the overwhelming majority of other league tables published in other newspapers and, as John O'Leary points out today, in your own tables published in August. Excluding General Studies produces, of course, radically different rankings.

Whether or not a school decides to submit its candidates for an examination in General Studies is an issue of educational philosophy. Schools which differ on this philosophy should not be judged by the same yardstick. A fairer and more informative way of dealing with two separate types of school is to produce separate tables.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN STEPHEN,
High Master,
The Manchester Grammar School,
Manchester M13 0XT.
November 21.

From Mrs H. R. Williamson

Sir, Judging by a sentence in the final paragraph of your leader on Schools Week (November 20), your "mission" is not so much information as propaganda.

I refer to these words: "As more do so — preferring the successful opted-out school a car-journey away to the mediocre council school two minutes' walk away — the pressure on places at the best schools will grow accordingly".

As the chair of governors of a successful LEA comprehensive, I regard the assumption implicit in this throw-away parenthesis as outrageous and indefensible. It is what I would expect from some right-wing think-tank.

Yours faithfully,
HEATHER R. WILLIAMSON,
11 Churchdown Road,
Malvern, Worcestershire.
November 20.

Assisted places

From Mr Dennis Witcombe

Sir, I am baffled by Mr Walden's suggestion that assisted place funds "should be reserved for private schools who open their doors to all by selective examination" (letter, November 22). Is there *any* private school which does not do exactly this? The role of the AP scheme is to enable any boy or girl who qualifies through this form of selection to take up the place which he or she deserves.

Yours faithfully,
DENNIS WITCOMBE,
(Headmaster, Nottingham
High School, 1970-1995),
29 Denewood Avenue,
Beeston, Nottinghamshire.
November 22.

US leader for Nato

From General Sir Brian Kenny

Sir, As a former Deputy to SACEUR from 1990-93, I support the suggestion made by Mr Alan Lee Williams and Professor Geoffrey Lee Williams (letter, November 17), namely that General Colin Powell should fill the post of Secretary-General of Nato with a European General taking over as the Supreme Allied Commander Europe.

The current situation in former Yugoslavia has shown some distinct disadvantages to the US in holding the position of SACEUR. First, there is an understandable expectation among the other members of Nato that the nation wishing to fill the top command post should lead by example and therefore contribute ground forces to any Nato operation from the outset. Imagine what the reaction of our allies would be if the Nato Rapid Reaction Corps (commanded by a British General) was committed without any UK troops.

Secondly, at a time when the focus of potential operations is in southern Europe, the Nato chain of command runs from a US SACEUR to another 4-star US officer in Naples. It is hardly surprising therefore that Nato plans are often seen to be US plans wrapped in a Nato flag, viz Bosnia. This can lead to further criticism of a lack of US willingness to support those plans on the ground at the outset.

To have a European General as SACEUR would take some pressure off the US and would recognise the reality that the US is most unlikely to put troops on the ground in an area which they consider to be primarily a European concern. With a European SACEUR, we might well see the French returning to full Nato membership, thereby helping relations between the Western European Union and Nato. I am, however, less enthusiastic about WEU than your correspondents. The WEU grows like a bunion, will always be an irritant to Nato and is a red rag to the Americans.

Although the threat of nuclear war is now much reduced, national US responsibilities (including nuclear) currently invested in SACEUR would need to be taken on elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN KENNY, Governor,
Royal Hospital, Chelsea, SW3.
November 23.

Hold it . . .

From Mrs Jean Martland Binner

Sir, I should like to give a warning to Dr Anne-Carole Chamier (letters, November 15 and 21). I felt exactly as she does about wedding photographers. Therefore, when my daughter was getting married, I shopped around for the most easy-going photographer in town.

I found him. On one of the photographs, my new son-in-law had his eyes closed. The photographer painted them in, in blue. My daughter and her brown-eyed husband dined out on the story for years.

Yours faithfully,
JEAN MARTLAND BINNER,
25 Bamford Way,
Rochdale, Lancashire.

Saving water

From Mr Bryan Chinn

Sir, Perhaps the Chairman of the Water Services Association (letter, November 21) can tell us how, whilst only 4 per cent of rainfall is put into the public water supply, 100 per cent of leaks are recovered.

Do his staff put a bucket under each and every leak?

Yours etc,
BRYAN CHINN,
74 The Lawns,
Rolleston on Dove, Staffordshire.
November 21.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Urban deprivation

From Mrs Carolyn Steen

Sir, Urban deprivation is as bad if not worse than it was ten years ago, says the Church of England report *Staying in the City* (details, November 17).

The Charities Lottery Board has the resources to do something about this but seems reluctant to part with its millions, particularly to the poor of inner London, many of whom suffer from the worst excesses of deprivation.

The Thomas Coram Foundation (originally The Foundling Hospital), with an unbroken track record of caring for disadvantaged children since 1739, owns a derelict three-acre site near King's Cross. It has planning permission but no money to build a new children's centre providing nursery, day care, health and parenting advice among other facilities. It also plans to enlarge its mediation, access, adoption and other care services.

There are many other charities with the dedication and commitment to tackle poverty in inner London but, like us, with no funds to do it.

The lottery takes money from the pockets of the inner-city poor. What poetic justice if the lottery were to return it, and more, to help those who through gambling are desperately trying to improve their situation.

Yours faithfully,
CAROLYN STEEN
(Chairman of Governors),
Thomas Coram Foundation
for Children,
40 Brunswick Square, WC1.

No man's land?

From Mr P. G. Uttley

Sir, I assure Mr W. S. Burnett, who writes from Ross-shire (letter, November 23), that the North Brits are not alone in being puzzled by the phrase Middle England. Earlier this summer I heard on the radio an interviewer talking to two ladies emerging from a meeting at which the PM had spoken.

They were asked what they thought of Mr Major's appeal to Middle England. The reply was: "Oh, we don't know anything about that, we come from Truro."

Yours faithfully,
P. G. UTTLEY,
Illingworth Hall Farm,
Halifax, West Yorkshire.
November 24.

From Lady Boreham

Sir, Maybe Middle England is related to Middle English, which no one speaks any more.

Yours sincerely,
HEATHER BOREHAM,
15 Lavington Court,
77 Putney Hill, SW15.
November 23.

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 25: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon visited the Dolores Olmedo Museum, Xochimilco, Mexico City.

Lord Grantchester

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Grantchester will be held in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, at noon on Thursday, January 11. Those wishing to attend are requested to apply for tickets to: Room 11, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, London, SW1P 3PA, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, by not later than December 22. Tickets will be posted by January 4.

Lady Clio Crawford

A memorial service for the life of Lady Clio Crawford will be held at the Greek Cathedral of St Sophia, Moscow Road, W2, on December 6, at 6pm.

Concert

British Red Cross
Miss Angela Rippon presided at a concert given by the British Red Cross in St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, on Saturday in aid of the 125th birthday appeal. Mr John F. Gray, director of public affairs, also spoke.

Miss Rula Lenska, Mr Peter Egan, Miss Gillian Humphreys and Mr Lynton Black were among those taking part. Others present included:

The Swiss Ambassador and Mrs Nordmann, the Marquess and Marchioness of Kildare, Sir Alan and Lady Munro, General Sir Patrick and Lady Palmer, the Dean of Windsor and Mrs Mitchell, Canon and Mrs Derek Stanesby, Canon and Mrs Michael Moxon and Mr and Mrs Jonathan Rees Williams.

Reception

Old Mercers' Club
Mr Peter Clark, President of the Old Mercers' Club, and Mrs Clark welcomed Old Mercers and their guests at a reception held on Saturday at the National Army Museum, Chelsea.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as senior fellow, will attend the Royal Academy of Engineering's new fellows dinner at Merchant Taylors' Hall, at 7.20.

The Duke of Kent, as president, will attend the Stroke Association's Life After Stroke award ceremony luncheon at the Hotel Inter-Continental, at 12.10.

Princess Alexandra, as Vice-President of the British Red Cross, will attend the City of London Red Cross Christmas market preview reception at Guildhall at 6.45.

Birthdays today

Mr John Alderton, actor, 55; Dr John Ashworth, director, London School of Economics and Political Science, 57; Mr Rodney Bewes, actor, 58; Lord Bridges, 68; the Rev Dr Edward Carpenter, former Dean of Westminster, 85; the Earl of Cottenham, 47; Mr Gavyn Davies, economist, 45; Mr Robert Dougall, broadcaster, 82; Air Marshal Sir Eric Dunn, 68; Mr James Evans, former chairman, International Thomson Organisation, 63; Lord Howard de Walden, 83; Dr Kim Howells, MP, 49; Miss Verity Lambert, film and television producer, 60; the Marquess of Lansdowne, 83; Sir John Maddox, Editor, *Nature*, 70; Baroness Mallalieu, QC, 50; Lord Nickson, 66; Mrs Margaret Parry, former Headmistress, Heathfield School, Ascot, 76; Mr Alan Simpson, scriptwriter, 66; Mr Ernie Wise, comedian, 70.

College of Estate Management

The President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, Mr Simon Pott, presented Diplomas in Surveying and gave an address to successful students of The College of Estate Management on Saturday. Mrs Caroline J. Rhodes received the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors prize for the most distinguished student of the year. The Chairman of the College, Mr Stephen Burman, and the Principal, Mr Peter Goodacre, each gave an address.

School news

St Edmund's School, Canterbury
The Governors are pleased to announce that Mr Robert Bacon, BA (Hons), Housemaster of Southfields House, Stamford School has been appointed as Master of the Junior School with effect from September 1996 in succession to Mr David Gahan, MA, who will be retiring.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.E. Clarkson Webb and Miss R.N. Lancastle
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Roger Clarkson Webb, of Cumnor, Oxford, and Ruth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Tom Lancastle, of Orpington, Kent.

Mr A.F. Foakes and Miss R.J. Bladon
The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of Mr and Mrs Maurice Foakes, of Bushey, Hertfordshire, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stuart Bladon, of Radlett, Hertfordshire.

Mr R.F. Winchester and Miss T.J. Conway
The engagement is announced between Robert Frederic, son of the late Ian Winchester, CMG, and of Mrs Shirley Winchester, of Dulwich, and Tracy Jane, daughter of Mr Michael Conway and the late Mrs Jean Porter, of Sudbury, Suffolk.

Marriages

His Honour Judge R. Gee and Mrs M. Gross
The marriage took place on November 22, in New York, of His Honour Judge Richard Gee and Mrs Marilyn Gross.

Mr A. Harley and Miss J. Bayliss
The marriage took place in Richmond, on November 25, between Mr Allan Harley and Miss Jessica Bayliss. A celebration was conducted by the Reverend Alun Glyn-Jones and the reception was held at Strawberry Hill, Twickenham. After their honeymoon the couple will live in Sumatra.

Mr C.I. Tehrani and Miss J.E. Glynn
The marriage took place on November 25, 1995, at Chelsea Register Office, of Mr Christopher Tehrani, son of Mr B. Tehrani, of London and Tehran, and Mrs M. Tehrani, of Hove, Sussex, and Miss Joanna Glynn, daughter of Mr G.D.V. Glynn, of Hillersdon, Devon, and Mrs V.G. Browell, of Great Cheverell, Devizes, Wiltshire.

Service dinners

Royal Naval Sailing Association
Admiral Sir Horace Law, a founder member, was the guest of honour at the Diamond Anniversary Dinner held in *HMS Nelson* on November 17. Vice Admiral Sir Toby Frere, Commodore of RNSA, presided.

Frinton Society
Mr Robert Avery, Chairman of the Frinton Society of former naval Russian interpreters, presided at the annual dinner of the society held on Saturday night at *HMS Collingwood*.

Dinners

English-Speaking Union
Mrs Valerie Mitchell, Director-General of the English-Speaking Union, was the guest speaker at the annual Thanksgiving Dinner of the union's East Midlands Branch held on Saturday at the Barnsdale Country Club, Rutland. Mrs Barbara Lancaster, branch chairman, welcomed guests and Sir Reginald Harland, president of the union's East Region, presided.

Association of Old Brightonians
Mr W.S. Blackshaw was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Association of Old Brightonians, held on Saturday at Brighton College. Rear-Admiral P.G.V. Dingemans, president, was in the chair. Mr J.D. Leach, Headmaster, also spoke.

Appointments

Mr James Roger Watson and Ms Jennifer Carole Waine have been appointed full-time chairmen of Social Security, Medical, Disability and Child Support Appeal Tribunals in the North West region from today and Mr David Charlton as a full-time chairman in the Midland region from December 1.

Latest wills

The Hon Mrs Alexandra Naldera Metcalfe, of London SW1, vice-chairman of Save the Children Fund 1968-73, daughter of the 1st (and last) Marquess Curzon of Kedleston, a god-daughter of Queen Alexandra and a close friend of King Edward VIII, left estate in the UK valued at £1,306,843 net.

Mr Alan Breach Tayler, of Ducklington, Oxfordshire, who was a Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics at St Catherine's College, Oxford, left estate valued at £280,907 net.

Mr David Edward Charles Eversley, of Ashwell, Hertfordshire, the town planner and former chief planner with the GLC, left estate valued at £86,881 net.

Jean Suzanne Hastings, of Bramdean, Hampshire, left estate valued at £1,283,550 net. She died intestate.

JAMES MORGAN



Some of the Christmas Children who joined Miss Christmas and 2,000 other performers taking part yesterday in London's Grand Christmas Parade, in aid of The Prince's Trust. Large crowds watched the parade on its way through the West End

Hopes are built on the ashes of a riot

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE Meadow Well Construction Co-operative is literally rebuilding the shattered morale of one of Tyneside's worst inner-city problem estates.

Its first task was to build a replacement for the community centre, raised to the ground by arsonists during the 1991 riots which gave the North Shields estate unlooked-for notoriety. Today, two years after the co-op was formed with funds from City Challenge and North Tyneside council, it is competing for building contracts all over the North East.

The co-op was set up by the Meadow Well Trust, an organisation led by local people which was devised to restore a pride in their community by giving them a hand in the estate's development. Seven trainees from the estate were taken on to learn a variety of construction skills. Today the co-op employs 20 carpenters, joiners, plasterers and bricklayers, has 12 trainees and three teenagers on YTS programmes. Last year they built their own headquarters block next to the community centre.

"The idea was to give people a feeling of ownership of their community," Natalie Heath of City Challenge said. "That's why rebuilding the community centre was so important as a first task. It has faired very well, suffering only minor vandalism and hardly any graffiti."

The co-op is now a valuable source of employment on the Meadow Well. John Smith, 25, its site agent who is studying to be a quantity surveyor, said: "In the past if you went for a job and said you came from the Meadow Well, you were the first person to be crossed off the list. Now that has all changed.

"The estate is a 100 per cent better place to be, crime is down, the council and housing associations are doing up the properties, which is giving us a lot of work, and people are taking an interest in the area. A lot of pride has been restored and we are doing our bit by finding work for local people. The quality of our work is also being recognised.

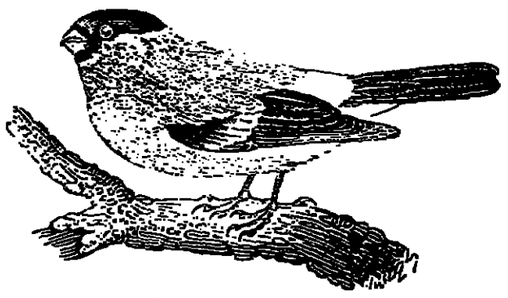
THE TIMES TOUCHE ROSS COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE AWARDS

We recently completed three bungalows for a housing project and received a letter saying it was the best job they have seen.

"We hope to go on finding more jobs for people from the Meadow Well and showing it is no longer the place everyone remembers from the troubles."

The Meadow Well Construction Co-operative is one of the winners of the 1995 Community Enterprise Awards, organised by Business in the Community and sponsored by The Times and Touche Ross.

Nature notes



The bullfinch: demolishing blackberries

HAWFINCHES are feeding on hornbeam seeds, both in the tops of the trees and on the ground beneath. They are the largest of the British finches, with a massive horn-coloured beak, but they are shy, elusive birds. Bullfinches are eating blackberries, of which there are many still left on the bramble bushes. Winter visitors are still arriving: on the east coast estuaries, there are now many dunlin feeding by pools or at the tide's edge, and large flocks of knots moving like an army across the mudflats.

Leaves are blown into shoals by the wind, and the rain clatters loudly on them. The greenest trees left are the weeping willows. On oaks, the zig-zag branches become noticeable when the leaves have fallen: they grow into this shape because a side bud on an oak twig often develops, while the bud on the tip fails. On young oak trees, there are many brown, marble-shaped galls hanging from the twigs. The larvae of the marble-gall wasp live in these swellings: a small hole in them indicates that the occupant has gone. In ditches, the hartstongue fern is still green, with long brown spores under the strap-like leaves.

DJM

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Anders Celsius, astronomer, inventor of the thermometer, Uppsala, Sweden, 1701; John Murray, publisher, London, 1778; Fanny Kemble, actress, London, 1809; Chaim Weizmann, biochemist, 1st President of Israel 1949-52, Motol, Russia, 1874; Jimi Hendrix, rock guitarist, Seattle, Washington, 1942.

DEATHS: Horace, Quintus Horatius Flaccus, Roman poet, 8 BC; Alexander Dumas the Younger, dramatist and poet, Paris, 1895; Eugene O'Neill, dramatist, Nobel laureate 1936, Boston, Massachusetts, 1953; Arthur Honegger, composer, Paris, 1955.

Two policewomen, the first to be granted official status in Britain, reported for duty at Grantham, Lincolnshire, 1914.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy and Royal Marines
COMMANDER: N H Davis - Staff of 2SL/CNH 8.3.96; R G Fensome - CDA Weybridge 15.3.96; N J F V Harry - MOD Bath 16.1.96; S C Howard - Manchester in Cmd 10.2.96; J A Humphrys - Dryad 19.4.96; P A Jellyman - Staff of FOSF 19.4.96; K Jones - Sultan 3.5.96; M R B Wallace - MOD London 4.4.96; S S Young - BDS Washington 4.4.96.
CHAPLAIN: J P Ames - FO Portsmouth 18.1.96
Retirements
COMMANDER: A St J Steiner - 10.2.96; E D J Sykes - 20.1.96
SURGEON COMMANDER (D): D C C Alexander - 10.2.96

The Army
COLONEL: C W Paskell - To be Comdt SEME, 27.11.95; S D Young - to MOD, 27.11.95; R J Griffiths - To MOD, 1.12.95.
LIEUTENANT COLONEL: P V Budd RLC - To HQ Land, 30.11.95; J S M Edwards RHF - To HQ Land, 27.11.95; E G Happe RA - To P&E Shoeburyness, 27.11.95; R A James R Signals -To MOD, 27.11.95; R A E Legg KOSB - To AP&DO Edinburgh, 27.11.95; J Longland RLC - To Log Cen USA, 2.12.95; A P Philp Reme - MOD, 27.11.95.
Retirement
COLONEL: A M H Joscelyne Late Gren Gds, 1.12.95.

Royal Air Force
GROUP CAPTAIN: D M Moss - HQ PTC 1.12.95; P A Barrett - HQPTC, 1.12.95; P D Rawson - HQ PTC, 1.12.95.
WING COMMANDER: J Dyer - HQ PTC, 27.11.95; A J Gritten - NATO Weapons School, 27.11.95; E G Artus - HQ STC, 27.11.95.
Retirement
AIR COMMODORE: C A Barnett - 1.12.95.

Royal Aeronautical Society

The following have been elected Fellows of the Society and may use the designatory letters FRAeS:

Prince Fahad Bin Abdullah; Wing Commander John Michael Alcock, Norman William Angel, Michael Bagshaw, John William Cottrell Baker, Oliver J Boden, Oliver C Boileau, Martin Tilston Broadhurst, Frederic Austin Burke, Trevor Herbert Bush, Group Captain Mirza Sikander Beg Chaghtai, Brendan Peter Connor, Derek Charles Cook, Group Captain Edward Reginald Cox, Air Commodore David Cyril Couzens, Trevor Rodney Crabtree.

Bernard Dufour, Captain John Stephen Fairey, Michael John Gerald Farlam, Air Commodore Hamid Farooq, John Ferrie, Air Commodore Richard Michael Stewart Fitzgerald-Lombard, Colin Michael Foale, Michael James Foote, Air Marshal Sir Timothy Garden, Philip Norman Goddard, Ian Adam Godden, John Alexander Gordon.

Air Commodore David William Hill, Anthony John Hines, Dan Nung Ing, Air Chief Marshal Muhammad Abbas Khattak, Captain Peter Jonathan Kidner, Robert Ashworth Kilgore, David G Kolodziej, James Kriel, Professor Brian Edward Launder, Raymond Norman Lee, David Albert John Martin, Paul Edward Mayes, James Cameron McKenna, Barry Mellers, Group Captain Peter John Moore, Martin D Moritz.

Charles Allen Partlet, Colin Richardson Penny, Noel Potter, David Brian Priddy, Frank Surgenor Reford, Helen Patricia Sharman, James Stuart Smith, Air Vice-Marshal Peter Ted Squire, Maxwell Brooke Stevens, Roger Hill Warren.

The following have been elected as Companions of the Society:

Roger Douglas Bornell, Matthew Chance Hudson, Eric George Lomas, Michael G Medlicott, Michael Frederic Myburgh.

University news

Oxford
All Souls College
Miss Anne Caroline Lloyd Davies, BA (Lincoln College), and Mr Turlough Francis Stone (Merton College) have been elected to Fellowships by Examination from November 4.

Cambridge
Queen's College
Andrew Howard Gee, MA, PhD, has been elected to an Offical Fellowship from October 1.

Selwyn College
Russell Cameron Healey elected into a Fellowship and College Lectureship in Engineering.

Fitzwilliam College
Derek John Fray, presently Professor of Mineral Engineering at Leeds University has been elected to a Fellowship in Class B on his appointment to the Chair of Materials Chemistry on February 1, 1996.

Dominic Keown, presently Lecturer in Catalan and Spanish at Liverpool University has been elected to a Fellowship in Class A on his appointment to a University Lectureship in Spanish from January 1, 1996.

The following have been elected to Fellowships in Class A from October 1, 1995:
Kevin Michael Brindle, University Lecturer in Biochemistry; Simon Andrew Crosby, University Lecturer and Director of Studies in Computer Science; Kenneth Walter Platts, University Lecturer in Engineering; Alison Mary Ashby, Royal Society University Research Fellow at the Department of Plant Sciences; Hero Amaryllis Chalmers, College Lecturer and Director of Studies in English.

St Catharine's College
Elected into a Fellow Commonership from January 1: John Benjamin Bibby, Peter James Boizot.

London
Queen Mary and Westfield College
The Queen Mary and Westfield College Act has received the Royal Assent. The Act brings together the Medical College of St Bartholomew's Hospital, the London Hospital Medical College and Queen Mary and Westfield College into a single fully integrated multi-faculty college of the University of London.

The amended statutes establish St Bartholomew's and the Royal London Hospital School of Medicine and Dentistry, following the Queen's approval of that title, with the Lord Mayor of London as its President.

All graduates and emerius professors and readers of the two former medical colleges automatically become members of Queen Mary and Westfield College.

Leeds Metropolitan
The personal title of professor has been conferred on the following:
Professor John Bale, Faculty of Design and the Built Environment, Wilmott Dixon Professor of Construction Management;
Professor David Band, Faculty of Business;
Professor David Dewhurst, Faculty of Health and Social Care, Professor of Health Science;
Professor Gabriele Griffin, Faculty of Cultural and Education Studies, Professor of Women's Studies;
Professor George Hainsworth, Faculty of Design and the Built Environment, Professor of Fine Art;
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Your eyes are too pure to look upon evil: why then do you countenance the treachery of the wicked? Why keep silent when they devour those who are more righteous? Habakkuk 1 : 13 (REB)

BIRTHS

FITZROY NEWDEGATE - To James and Georgia, at The Wellington, on November 23rd, a son.

GRAVELL - On November 21st, to Alicky (née Llewellen Palmer) and Humphrey, a daughter, Xenia Isobel.

DEATHS

BEST - Yolande, dearly loved sister of Greta, peacefully at Princess Louise Hospital on 20th November. Funeral Service at St Helen's Church, Ladbroke Grove, 10 am 29th November. Family flowers only please

BRISCOE - Teresa Lady. On 23rd November aged 76, peacefully in her sleep following a gallant fight against cancer. Appointed OBE for her services to the British Red Cross Society, she was also a noted archaeologist. She was muched loved by her children Diana, the late Sir James and Edward, by her daughters-in-law Felicity, Sandy and Anne, by her grandchildren Fay, Guy, Amanda and Sir John and by her step grandaughter Claire. Funeral Service will be at St. Teresa's Roman Catholic Church, Beaconsfield, Bucks on Friday 1st December at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations, if wished, to The British Red Cross Society, 9 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7EE All enquiries please to the Funeral Directors H.C. Grimstead Ltd 01494 672668

EDWARDES - Teresa Mary, beloved darling wife of Jon and adored mother of John and Rupert suddenly at home on 24 November 1995. Funeral Service at Cheltenham Crematorium on Friday 1st December at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only

DEATHS

LAMPARD - On 22nd November 1995, Christopher beloved husband of the late Margaret, dear father of Sylvia Ruggier, grandfather of Michael, Paul and Romanie, great-grandfather of Jake. Funeral Medmenham Church on Saturday 2nd December at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to League of Friends of Marlow Hospital.

LANYON - Pamela June, aged 88, daughter of Capt. Lionel Dawson R.N., dearly loved mother of Simon and Martin. Peacefully on 25th November in Overdale Hospital, Jersey.

MINTO - On 23rd November 1995, Elizabeth aged 98 who passed away peacefully at her home in Beaminster, Dorset. Funeral service at Yeovil Crematorium on Thursday 30th November at 2 pm. Family flowers only please donations if desired to Save The Children Fund c/o A.J. Wakely & Sons, 7 North Street, Beaminster.

MORRISH - James Herbert, aged 98, peacefully on November 23rd 1995. Dearly loved husband of Kitty and father of Jay and Ann. Funeral at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Thursday November 30th at 2.20 pm. No flowers, but donations to The Royal National Institute for the Deaf.

ORTON - Male A.M. Peacefully on 24th November at Windover Bangor aged 92. Family flowers please or donations to the charity of your choice. Cremation at Bangor Crematorium on Thursday 30th November at 12.00 noon.

PRICKETT - Noni, on 21 November. Beloved mother of Michael, Cedric and Diana and loving grand-mother. Funeral at St Luke's Chelsea at 2pm on Thursday 30 November. Family flowers only, please, but if wished donations to St Luke's, Sydney Street, London SW3.

RYALL - David Scott Died peacefully on 24 November 1995 aged 55. Sadly missed by family and many friends.

DEATHS

SIMPSON - William Geoffrey (Geoff) died peacefully on November 22nd at home. Beloved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral at St Mary and All Saints Church, Beaconsfield Old Town, at 11.30 am on Thursday November 30th.

TONER - (née Stapleton) Killiney, Co Dublin and formerly Kingston, Surrey. November 24th 95, Catherine (Kay) widow of Robert. Deeply regretted. Funeral will take place in Ireland.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

CLOUT - A Memorial Service for Colin H. Clout will be held in St Faith's Chapel, Westminster Abbey, by kind permission of The Dean and Chapter, at 6.15 pm on Thursday, 14th December. Family and friends are welcome afterwards in the Camden Room Ashburnham House, Westminster School.

HALLIDIE SMITH - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Dr. Katherine Ann Halldie Smith will be held on Thursday 18th January 1996 at 2.30 pm at St George the Martyr, Queen Square, London WC1.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

JONES - Pauline. Dearly loved and deeply missed every day and especially today, our 50th wedding anniversary Arthur and the family.

LEVENE - A Memorial Service will be held for Dr Gerald M Levene on Wednesday 29th November at 5.30pm in the Edward Lewis Lecture Theatre at the Middlesex Hospital, Mortimer Street, London W1.

OWEN - (née Phebey). Emma tragically killed 26/11/94. So dearly loved, so deeply mourned.

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OBITUARIES

LOUIS MALLE

Louis Malle, French film director, died from cancer in California on November 23 aged 63. He was born on October 30, 1932.



Julien (Gaspard Manesse), left, and the Jewish boy Bonnet (Raphaël Fejtö) in *Au Revoir les Enfants*, 1987

ONE of the great humanists of France's modern cinema, Louis Malle was regarded in some quarters as the finest director of his generation. Perhaps his work was too uneven for all to share that judgement, but across a career of some 40 years and 25 films he was a perceptive, urbane and warmly sympathetic film-maker, of great gifts.

Malle was a contemporary of the leaders of the so-called *nouvelle vague*, Godard, Truffaut and others, and was sometimes lumped with them. But he was never part of their group, and was quite different. He was more cosmopolitan, being almost as much at home in the United States, where he often lived and filmed, as in his native France. And he was more diverse. Whereas directors such as Rohmer and Chabrol ploughed a quite narrow furrow, repeatedly making the same kind of film, Malle remained eclectic.

In his early career he would unpredictably hop from subject to subject, from locale to locale and even from style to style, so that some critics found him lacking a defined personal approach. But he enjoyed his versatility. He made social documentaries, for example on poverty in India, but would also explore intimate themes of passionate adulterous sexuality; or he would slyly satirise the bourgeoisie, and he was excellent at using personal dramas to illumine recent history (*Lacombe Lucien*; *Au Revoir les Enfants*).

His work did have two main common threads. One was its human warmth and sympathy. The other, his major trademark, seen in film after film, was his fondness for choosing themes provocative at the time and then treating them without moral judgment: these included incest (*Le Souffle au Coeur*), child prostitution (*Pretty Baby*) and, in two of his finest films, suicide (*Le Feu Follet*) and collaboration (*Lacombe Lucien*).

"I like to provoke and disturb audiences," he said — a result, in part, of his youthful rebellion against his privileged background. Louis Malle was born at Thumeries near Lille into a wealthy bourgeois family. His mother was a daughter of the Béghins, France's leading sugar refiners; his father was a naval officer who later became a company executive.

Malle studied at the Sorbonne, then took a diploma at France's national film school, but had to fight family opposition to his entering the "dubious" film world. For many years he was torn between affection for his family and rejection of their world and values, and this added depth to his work.

In 1953 he was spotted by Jacques-Yves Cousteau, the underwater explorer and film-maker, and worked with him for three years, finally acting as his co-director on the documentary *Le Monde de Silence* which won the Cannes Grand Prix in 1956. Malle later acknowledged his immense debt to Cousteau. Next he worked for a while as assistant to Robert Bresson.

In his first fiction feature, *Ascenseur pour l'Échafaud* (1957), Malle managed to turn a routine thriller subject into something sophisticated, offbeat and atmospheric. It was an exciting debut and it won him a top French award, the Prix Delluc. Then came the first of his sharp changes of subject, with *Les Amants* (1958), a glossy love-story whose explicit sex scenes were daring for those days. *Zazie dans le Métro* (1960) was a lively and not unsuccessful attempt to translate into screen terms Quéneau's cheeky pun-spattered fable about a child on the rampage in Paris.

These three varied works revealed little about Malle himself. But *Le Feu Follet* (1963) was perhaps the most personal and heartfelt of all his films, an adaptation of the notable 1920s novel by Drieu la Rochelle about a young alcoholic's vain search for a meaning in life, ending in suicide. Malle transposed it to his own modern *milieu* and made of it a restrained and moving film, Bresson-like in its concentration on the hero's inner suffering. But he depressed himself so much in doing so that he then had to leap off to Mexico to film Moreau and Bardot in their underpants in a picaresque period romp, *Viva Maria!* (1965).

The next shift in subject matter found him in India, making his worthy eight-part documentary series, *Phantom India* and *Calcutta*, studies of poverty, superstition and quietism — again, very personal works. The Indian Government thought the films gave so grim and distorted a picture that, when the BBC screened them, it closed down the Corporation's New Delhi office for 18 months. Malle, who loved India, found this ironic, seeing that in his films he had been trying to suggest that Indian traditional values had something to teach the spiritually impoverished West.

La Souffle au Coeur (1971) was a beautifully composed but somewhat insipid study of adolescence, set in provincial France in the 1950s. Its sub-theme of incest, though discreetly handled, caused ripples of shock. *Lacombe Lucien* (1974) then set off much greater controversy, in a France still sensitive about the Occupation. It was the story of a dim-witted teenage peasant in the Massif Central in 1944 who by accident comes to work for the Germans. Malle's aim was to make people rethink their attitude to this period, by suggesting that not all *collabos* were wicked or perverted: some were just stupid, even innocent. "I refused to make Lacombe either hero or villain, I neither judged nor justified." It was a brave film, with eloquent period detail, but some critics felt that, by focusing on such an imbecile, Malle had sidestepped the real moral dilemmas of collaboration.

By 1976 he decided that modern France was "a dull and mediocre society", whereas America was more lively. So he moved to New York, where he soon proved that he could look at America with a rare sensitivity while retaining an authentically European eye. *Pretty Baby*, starring Brooke Shields, was an evocative study of the New Orleans whorehouses of 1916, centring round a typically provocative Mallean thesis — that child prostitution can even be quite fun.

Atlantic City, USA, which won a top prize at the 1980 Venice Festival, followed the dreams of a hoodlum and a waitress in the tarnished world of a big gambling resort. *My Dinner with André* (1981) was one of the most unusual films of modern cinema. It was a semi-documentary record of 100 minutes of intellectual discussion in a restaurant between two real-life New York men of the theatre. The camera hardly ever left the dining-table. What could have been a tedious disaster emerged as a fascinating *tour de force* and became a cult success in America.

In 1980 Malle married the American actress Candice Bergen, and the rest of his life he divided between Los Angeles and Paris. Although he made six films in America, he never succumbed to Hollywood and remained independent. But he tired of working in the US, and in 1987 returned to France to make possibly his finest film, *Au Revoir les Enfants*, winner of several major prizes. It was based on an incident in his own schooldays, when a Jewish boy at his college near Fontainebleau was denounced to the Gestapo and taken to the death camps. Malle's quiet humanity, his feeling for period detail and his narrative flair, were never seen to better effect. He always said that he was most interested in France's past, America's present.

Then came *Milou en Mai*, a gently barbed comedy about a bourgeois family's quarrels and reactions to the 1968 *événements*. Some critics called it "Chekhovian". *Damagé* (1992), Malle's one film set in Britain, starring Jeremy Irons and Juliette Binoche, represented something of a hiccup in his output. It was an oddly cold and lifeless account of a self-destructive *amour fou* between a government minister and his son's fiancée, in which the distinguished principals were, oddly, acted off the screen by Miranda Richardson as the politician's betrayed wife. But Malle's reputation was redeemed by *Vanya on 42nd Street* (1994) which demonstrated that he was a long way from losing his touch. It was rated one of the best films of its year.

Malle's own *amours*, mostly with actresses, provided fuel for magazine articles across many years. Pipe-smoking, slight of build, he was a *handsome, passionate man whom* women found charismatic. And his elegant manners, his cultured sophistication, his wit and sharp intelligence were reflected in much of his work. He was a fine craftsman, with a visual flair plus a feeling for language (he generally wrote his own screenplays) whether working on adaptations or, as more often, devising his own stories.

He may not have equalled the imaginative lyricism of Resnais or Truffaut at their best, but he was seldom as bathetic as they could often be. He had a novelist's feeling for psychology and moral issues, plus a journalist's alertness to the modern world. His documentary work included a rather bleak study of workers in a Citroën car factory. But he was no crusading leftist, despite the occasional critiques of narrow bourgeois selfishness. "I try to make films that reflect my personal life," he once said. But this was always oblique, not showily self-indulgent.

Though stylistically conventional, Malle was often an innovator. His determination to focus on themes such as suicide, incest, child prostitution, wartime collaboration, and the Tory minister's crazed, reckless adultery in *Damage* drew on him the judgment: "Malle is obsessed with passionate irrationality." from one critic. But in the main he treated these themes with tact and subtlety. He said that he liked to disturb audiences so as to force them to reappraise their values, be more tolerant, to see that evil and good were closely bound up. His two masters, he claimed, were Bresson and Tati — the tragic and the comic masks of the French cinema's marvellous humanism.

Malle's first marriage, to Anne-Marie Deschodt, was dissolved. He is survived by his second wife, the actress Candice Bergen, and their daughter.

JOAN FRANCIS

Joan Francis, actress, died on November 22 aged 75. She was born on April 1, 1920.

THOUGH her role was not a leading one, Joan Francis was as much a part of *Coronation Street* as the woman who used to scrub the doorstep while the familiar theme tune churned. One of the original members of the cast, throughout the Sixties she played Dot Greenhalgh, the tarty friend of Elsie Tanner, bosomy siren of the street.

Together this duo of good-time girls, with their bursting blouses and mascara-laden eyes, brought a touch of saucy dalliance to the grimy northern terraces. They had entertained the American GIs during the Second World War, and resumed old affairs again when the Yanks returned in 1967. When Dot's husband threw her out after discovering her infidelity, she moved in with her friend Elsie and together they went to work in the clothes department of Miami Modes, a department store.

Joan Francis Willi (as she was before she took her stage name) was born into a theatrical family. Her parents were touring repertory actors so her education was peripatetic. She attended classes at different schools every week, and at weekends would often appear in productions staged by the theatre company which her father ran, the Frank Fortescue Company.

Many of the members of this company were later to join the *Coronation Street* cast. One of the directors, Arthur Leslie, took the role of John Walker, the genial landlord of the Rovers Return, and another, Bernard Youens, played the layabout Stan Ogden.

As teenagers Francis and her sister joined a music hall cast where she gained valuable experience of the thespian world. She moved on during the 1950s and 1960s to take bit parts in television series, appearing in programmes such as *Z-Cars* and *Knight Errant*.

It was in 1960 that she joined a string of other hopefuls and auditioned for a role in a new drama by Tony Warren called *Coronation Street*. She was trying for the role of Elsie Tanner, but did not get the part. "I went home and broke my heart," she recounted in a later interview. "But a few weeks later I was asked to go back and play Dot, a part with a nice comedy ingredient and I'm glad now." She was to play this role from 1961 to 1969, appearing in more than eighty episodes.

Alongside this work, Francis also took a few film roles, including ones in *The Lonely* and *Fahrenheit 451*. She also appeared in a D. H. Lawrence series at the Royal Court.

In 1969 Francis made her last appearance as Dot in an episode in which Dot stood by and allowed her best friend Elsie to take the blame for stealing dresses which she herself had shoplifted. The case went to court but Elsie was aquitted.

Francis spent much of the next ten years in the Isle of Wight, working with her father's old company, now managed by Geoffrey Reed, whom she had married. Though she did return briefly to television in 1988 in the series *The Brothers McGregor*, the role was curtailed when she suffered a severe stroke and lost her power of speech.

In 1990 she attended a party to celebrate *Coronation Street*'s 30th birthday.

She leaves a son.



JACK FINNEY

Jack Finney, American science fiction writer, died on November 16 aged 84. He was born on October 2, 1911.

THERE were few monsters, mutants or moments of terror in Jack Finney's science fiction. He was a cerebral entertainer more fascinated by the possibilities of time travel and its effect on human beings than with the conventional adventures in outer space. A notable exception was a stunning piece of work which brought Finney wider recognition than almost anything he wrote.

Originally entitled *The Body Snatchers*, and later reissued as *The Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, it was a chilling story of aliens who emerge from seed pods in the form of human beings from whom they have stripped both body and soul.

When it first appeared in 1955 *The Body Snatchers* was widely interpreted by critics as being an allegory of the Cold War paranoia of an America in constant fear of being taken over by communist infiltrators. But Finney maintained it was pure entertainment. Hollywood's nascent special effects industry produced some terrifying images of the emerging aliens in the film *The Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956). Produced as a low-budget picture in black-and-white, the film was remade twice in colour but neither version achieved the impact of the original.

Walter Braden Finney — Jack Finney was his *nom de plume* — had begun his writing career in the advertising industry, then began to write short stories for such magazines as *Colliers*, *McCall's*, and the *Saturday Evening Post*. He was 43 before he published his first novel, *Five Against the House*, which was an imaginative crime story about five college students who plot to rob a Reno casino. *The Body Snatchers* followed a year later.

Finney began experimenting with the theme of time travel in a collection of stories entitled *The Third Level*, in which a commuter discovers a train that runs between New York and the year 1894, and a man rebuilds an old car and finds himself taken back to the 1920s. In *The Woodrow Wilson Dime*, published in 1968, he envisaged a coin which transports its owner into a parallel world in which he achieves fame by composing the musicals of Oscar Hammerstein and inventing the zip-fastener.

Finney returned to the thriller genre in 1959 with *Assault on a Queen* and tried his hand at comedy in *Good Neighbour Sam* (1963). Both novels were made into successful films.

But somehow he was always drawn back to his fascination with time, and specifically to the 19th century, which was the setting for his most ambitious work, *Time and Again* (1970), whose hero takes part in a secret project to re-enter the world of New York in 1882. *Time and Again* was to be reprinted many times over the next 23 years and Finney produced a sequel, *From Time to Time*, earlier this year.

Jack Finney is survived by his wife, Marguerite, and by one son and one daughter.

CAPTAIN ROY MILLICHAP

Captain Roy Millichap, DFC, airline pilot, died on November 15 aged 79. He was born on July 22, 1916.



AS THE commander of the BOAC Comet 4 Delta Charlie from London to New York on October 4, 1958, Captain Roy Millichap carved himself a niche in aviation history. The flight was the first commercial jet passenger service from Europe to North America and was undertaken simultaneously with a similar operation in the other direction commanded by his friend and colleague, Captain Tom Stoney. The two flights marked the culmination of a nailbiting Anglo-American contest that had gripped the public's imagination on both sides of the Atlantic, and they beat the competing Pan American Boeing 707 into revenue service by a mere 22 days.

It was the highpoint of an association Millichap had held with the Comet since it had launched the world's first jet passenger services with BOAC in 1952. Converting to fly the aircraft in April of that year, he was the commander of a training flight on which BBC Radio experimented with one of its first in-flight documentaries in the programme *Comet Over The Alps* recorded between London and Rome.

But later he had a narrow escape after landing at Rome and making way for another crew. The Comet took off again and disintegrated in flight, after disastrous cabin pressure failure, killing all on board. It was one of several accidents that plagued the Comet I and ultimately led to the grounding of the entire fleet. When asked later why he volunteered to fly home one of the other Comets which had been stranded in Rome as a result of the disaster, Millichap said "You do crazy things when you are young."

Millichap's wide experience of the jet resulted in his appointment as a member of the BOAC development team set up to work with the manufacturer de Havilland, in the wake of the accidents. Basically the group was charged with establishing the integrity of a new Comet design which circumvented the metal fatigue problems found to be the cause of the crashes after a long and painstaking air accident investigation.

This involved him flying a long series of non-revenue proving flights between London and Beirut — or "beetroot" as, to his great amusement, his young daughter referred to the city — in a Comet 2E which looked similar to the accident aircraft but had round windows. The success of this project led directly to the development of the larger Comet 4 with which he inaugurated transatlantic jet services.

Roy Edgar Millichap was born in Plymouth, the son of a British Railway's station master. After a grammar school education his career began with Spartan Air Lines on the Isle of Wight where one of his duties was to cycle seven miles to Bembridge Airport and count the number of passengers he could see boarding competing airline services to Croydon.

In the run up to the Second World War he held a succession of airline ground appointments — a phase of his career which was incidentally recorded for posterity when Millichap was included in the famous Neville Chamberlain "Peace In Our Time" newsreel footage as one of the officiating ground staff. Before the outbreak of hostilities Millichap was posted to Budapest but was cut off from the UK after the German invasion of Poland. He managed to escape by train to Athens, took ship to Alexandria and from there returned by flying boat to Britain — where he was promptly reprimanded for mis-spending office funds in getting away.

In 1940 Millichap joined the RAF and after flying training was posted as a flying instructor on Tiger Moths at Fairoaks. There a popular unofficial activity was to fly alongside the Hog's Back, level with the road, and surprise car drivers by keeping pace with their vehicles. He continued instructing until mid-1943 when he was posted to Bomber Command.

After operational training on Wellingtons and Stirlings he joined 207 Squadron and was involved in operations over Caen on D-Day before moving to 630 Squadron. In all he flew 33 combat missions over France and Germany and was awarded the DFC.

Three days after the war in Europe ended, Millichap was seconded to BOAC and began his commercial flying career flying the Lancastrian, a civil version of the Lancaster, on services from Bournemouth's Hurn Airport to the Middle and Far East. He next converted to the Argonaut and it was in one of these aircraft that he was forced to land in Canton six months after the Communist takeover when three of the four engines failed. After a brief period of internment he and his passengers were allowed to fly out to Hong Kong when the aircraft was repaired.

Later he was a member of one of the Argonaut crews that flew Princess Elizabeth out to Kenya in 1952 and then brought her back again as Queen after King George VI died. Later Millichap flew the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to and from Canada when they visited the country in a Comet 4 to open the St Lawrence Seaway in 1959. At about the same time he was awarded the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Services in the Air in recognition of his work in support of the Comet's development.

Millichap went on to retire from BOAC in 1965 as a Senior Captain First Class, flying the Boeing 707. He then became an inspector in the Air Accidents Investigation Branch for a two year period before being appointed as a Civil Aviation Authority Flight Operations Inspector with responsibility for Britannia Airways, BEA's turboprops and Gibraltar Airways.

Retiring from aviation in the early 1970s Millichap moved to Sussex where he became a counsellor for the Samaritans for a number of years.

He is survived by his wife Phyllis and by their two sons and a daughter.

Church news

The Ven Thomas Walker, Archdeacon of Nottingham, diocese of Southwell, is to retire early on health grounds as from March 1, 1996.

Appointments

The Rev Brian Banks, Rector, All Saints, Freshwater, Isle of Wight: to be also Priest-in-charge, St James, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight (Portsmouth).

Canon Howard Barker, Bishop's Chaplain and an Honorary Canon of Portsmouth Cathedral: to be Vicar, St Helen, St Helens and St Peter, Seaview, Isle of Wight (Portsmouth).

The Rev Robert Bawtree, Vicar, Hildenborough: to be *also* Rural Dean of Tonbridge (Rochester).

The Rev David Couling, Master of Greatham Hospital and Priest-in-charge, Greatham: to be *also* Rural Dean of Hartlepool (Durham).

The Rev Harry Edwards, Vicar, Blythburgh w Reydon: to be Diocesan Adviser in Pastoral Care and Counselling (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich) and Priest-in-charge, Campsea Ash, Marlesford, Parham and Hacheston, same diocese.

The Rev Karen Emery, Assistant Curate, Royston: to be Team Vicar, St Stephen, Bells Hill, in the parish of Chipping Barnet w Arkley (St Albans).

The Rev Stephen Ferns, Priest-in-charge, Norton St Mary: to be Vicar of that parish (Durham).

The Rev David Frith, Curate, Maidstone All Saints w St Philip (Canterbury): to be Vicar, St Michael, East Wickham (Southwark).

The Rev Michael Gobbett, Priest-in-charge, Norton St Michael and All Angels: to be Vicar of that parish (Durham).

The Rev Duncan Green, Diocesan Youth Officer (Chelmsford): to be Team Rector, Saffron Walden District and Wendens Ambo District w Littlebury (same diocese).

The Rev Paul Griffiths, Priest-in-charge, St Peter's, Tollerton: now also Priest-in-charge, Plumtree St Mary (Southwell).

The Rev Phillip Hamilton-Manon, Priest-in-charge, Cleadon Park St Mark and StCuthbert: to be Vicar of that parish (Durham).

The Rev Ronald Hart, Team Vicar, Church of the Good Shepherd, Aylesbury (Oxford): to be Rector, Broughton Gifford, Great Chalfield and Holt St Katharine (Salisbury).

The Rev Canon Michael Howard, Priest-in-charge, Cobham w Luddesdowne and Dode: to be Priest-in-charge, St George, Weald and continue as Diocesan Adviser in Evangelism (Rochester).

The Rev Michael Ketley, formerly Priest-in-charge, Barkingside, St Cedd: now Rector, St James the Less, Hadleigh (Chelmsford).

The Rev Stuart Lewis, Chaplain, Malvern College (Worcester): to be Chaplain Precentor of Portsmouth Cathedral (Portsmouth).

The Rev David Low, Vicar, St John and Christ Church, Sandown, Isle of Wight: to be Vicar, St Mary, Brading and Rector, St John, Yaverland, Isle of Wight (Portsmouth).

The Rev Christopher Lowson, Vicar, St Peter, Petersfield and Rector, St Mary, Buriton: to be also Rural Dean of Petersfield (Portsmouth).

Resignations and retirements

Canon Peter Challen, Rector, Christ Church, Southwark (Southwark): to retire March 31, 1996.

The Rev John Daimond, Vicar, Shawbury in plurality w Moreton Corbet, Stanton upon Hine Heath (Lichfield): resigned October 31.

The Rev Terry Fuller, Rector, Stoke Climsland and Priest-in-charge, Lezant (Truro): to retire December 31.

The Rev Dr John Gosling, Curate, Christ Church, Swindon (Bristol): to retire November 30.

The Rev Bryan Jones, Team Vicar, East Bristol (Bristol): to retire November 30.

The Rev Desmond Parsons, Rector, St Peter, Limpsfield (Southwark): retired October 31.

THE SNEAK-GUESTS METHODS OF GOSSIP-WRITERS

To The Editor of The Times

Sir,—"London Hostess", in her letter published in *The Times* of November 25, generalises about society journalism in a way that is unfair to many experienced and respected members of the profession.

Admittedly, there exists the man or woman who, while purporting to lead a life of leisure or while carrying on some profession, makes a supplementary income by sending in society paragraphs to the Press. This type of person would be horrified if accused of any such thing, and relies on being able to preserve his or her anonymity to slip malicious and indiscreet paragraphs past the editorial vigilance in the shape of apparently harmless innuendoes . . .

The object of this letter, however, is to point out that it is grossly unfair to penalise the legitimate society columnist because of the misdeeds of certain individuals who are not even members of the profession and whose activities culminated recently in a feature in a London evening paper.

The legitimate columnists are divided into two classes—those who actually sign their own names and those who write under a pseudonym but are known to every one. Far from making any pretence of denial, they are proud of their profession and their place in the social scheme.

In conclusion, I would like to make a point which to every journalist will be a platitude—namely, that indiscretion is no more expedient in our profession that it is in that of a lawyer or a doctor.

Yours faithfully,

November 26. DONEGALL.

[The Sixth Marquess of Donegall was well known for his column "Almost in Confidence" which appeared in *The Sunday Dispatch*.]

To The Editor of The Times

Sir,—The letter published in *The Times* today is an apt and timely exposure of an evil which is two-fold. Not only, as your correspondent indicates, is it a gross abuse of hospitality, but it is one of the most powerful factors in lowering the standards of journalism and in increasing the difficulties of *bona fide* journalists in earning an honest living by reputable methods.

It is becoming increasingly difficult for both men and women to get on to the staff of a paper if they do not possess a large circle of friends among the titled, political, or wealthy party-giving classes, and if they are not prepared to spy at these entertainments. One young man is paid £1,000 a year "entertaining allowance" in addition to his salary to pay for his expenses in going out in London, country house visits, shooting parties, &c. From all of these he is expected to bring back "gossip", the more private in its nature the better. Girls are tempted by alluring offers from newspapers to supply similar information and do not hesitate to betray the most intimate secrets told them, usually in ignorance of their connexion with a newspaper.

The remedy is surely to a certain extent in the hands of hostesses, who could at least refuse to receive known purveyors of gossip.

I enclose my card and remain yours, &c.

November 25. PUKKA JOURNALIST.

Sir,—Your correspondent can console herself by the fact that the ordinary person takes not the slightest notice of social gossip as published in the Press. I quite agree, however, that it is a pity that certain persons of standing should allocate to themselves the perquisites which before the War belonged to butlers and lady's maids.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ALISTAIR RICHARDSON, Captain.

Cavalry Club, Nov. 25.

ON THIS DAY

November 27, 1929

In a letter to The Times *(reprinted in On This Day last Saturday), "A London Hostess" wrote of guests in private houses who made money out of their entertainment by contributing gossip paragraphs to newspapers about their fellow-guests, hosts and hostesses. Her letter was followed by many others.*

THE TIMES TODAY MONDAY NOVEMBER 27 1995

NEWS

US hopes to broker Irish deal

■ The Americans are hoping to engineer a long-awaited breakthrough in the Irish peace process in time for President Clinton's three-day visit to Britain and Ireland this week. The news emerged as John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, tabled fresh proposals for breaking the IRA weapons deadlock.

The White House insists Mr Clinton will not be "pulling a rabbit out of the hat". But well-placed American sources believe the Administration is close to persuading Sinn Fein .....Page 1

Hopes of big Budget tax cuts

■ Tory hopes of big tax cuts in tomorrow's Budget were fuelled by Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, as he highlighted the Government's radical plans to turn to the private sector to build the roads, schools and hospitals of the future .....Page 1

Amateur police

Civilians are being used by a police force to perform undercover surveillance operations against targeted criminals .....Page 1

Instant art

Children will be able to view great paintings and other artistic treasures at the touch of a button under proposals by the National Heritage Department .....Page 1

Row over divorce

Opponents of divorce in the Irish Republic vowed to mount a legal challenge to the result of the referendum which ended Ireland's ban by a narrow margin ..Page 2

Diplomat shot

A British diplomat was recovering in a Kenyan hospital after being shot in the neck by car thieves after a high-speed chase through the streets of Nairobi .....Page 3

Princess's role

The Princess of Wales was flying home last night at the end of her first foreign foray since declaring that she wanted an ambassadorial role ..... Pages 1, 3

Times appeal

The Times launches its Christmas appeal, this year on behalf of the Children's Cancer Unit of the Royal Marsden Hospital. The hospital, with sites in Sutton, south London, and in Chelsea, is one of Europe's leading cancer hospitals .....Page 5

Church black sheep

The General Synod will be questioned tomorrow about the existence of a "blacklist" of clergy considered dangerous or unfit to be employed ..... Page 6

Student loan debt

The amount of money owed in student loans is forecast to quadruple to £4 billion in under three years, according to unpublished government documents ....Page 8

Problem meeting

Islamic terrorism, illegal immigration and the population explosion around the shores of the Mediterranean will preoccupy 27 foreign ministers meeting in Spain ..... Page 9

Sarajevo warning

Sarajevo will become the Beirut of Europe if its Serb inhabitants are forced to accept Muslim rule, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, said .....Page 10

Rebel on the run

Velupillai Prabhakaran, the most wanted man in Sri Lanka, spent his 41st birthday on the run, a cyanide capsule tied on a black string round his neck in readiness for suicide rather than capture .....Page 11

Rebel air raid

Rebel jets bombed residential areas of Kabul killing 35 people in the heaviest air raid on the besieged Afghan capital in more than a year ..... Page 12

Criminals 'outbreed the law-abiding'

■ The criminal classes are outbreeding law-abiding people a leading psychologist has claimed in the *Journal of Biosocial Science*. Professor Richard Lynn, who who recently retired from the University of Ulster, believes that the inheritance of criminal traits and the tendency of criminals to have more children, are contributing to the increase in crime .....Page 1



JAMES MORGAN

The Duke of Gloucester, the first steam train to leave Euston for 30 years, starting a day trip to Manchester, Victoria, yesterday

BUSINESS

Budget: Business leaders told Kenneth Clarke not to opt for big tax cuts and risk damaging the economic recovery ..... Page 44

Takeover battle: Forte is planning a board room shake-up as it prepares its defence against Granada's £3.4 billion bid ..... Page 44

Emu answers: Yves-Thibault de Silguy, European Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs answers 36 questions from William Rees- Mogg on European monetary union ..... Page 40

Gas bill: British Gas will begin talks on the gas bubble which could cost the company £1 billion. The excess gas which the company is contracted to buy would have been needed if the gas market had not been opened up ..... Page 41

FEATURES

Man behind the camera: "Every great photographer is a voyeur. If he denies it he is a liar or a fool," says Helmut Newton, the Jewish pensioner whose sado-masochistic pictures of nudes continue to shock ..... Page 17

Cabbage patch patrol: Plants that can produce their own alarm signal when attacked by mildews, blights and extremely cold weather will soon be with us ..... Page 16

FOCUS

Euro-Med conference: As fundamentalist forces grow, the European Union hopes that the conference, which starts today, will stabilise relations on its borders .....Page 37

ARTS

Back in fashion: The Charlatans began 1995 in the file marked Yesterday's Men. Yet they have ended the year with a sold out tour and another No 1 album ..... Page 14

Surprise gig: Emmylou Harris has one of the greatest voices in country music but she refused to be pinned down to one genre in her gig at the Shepherds Bush Empire ... Page 14

Musical children: It was nappy rash week at the Barbican: two consecutive nights when the London Symphony Orchestra hired two infant prodigies to draw the crowds .....Page 14

Tharp to the rescue: The Royal Ballet could certainly do with a boost. And who better to give it to them than the trendy choreographer Twyla Tharp? ..... Page 15



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ BUDGET 95
Expert predictions on the Chancellor's measures in our full-page Budget checklist

■ WIN £50,000
See how your players are performing in Interactive Team Football, our £50,000 prize game



Cricket: England secured an easy victory over the Free State in a limited overs match at Bloemfontein but there is a doubt over Richard Illingworth for the second Test on Thursday .....Page 25

Football: Blackburn Rovers, the struggling champions of the FA Carling Premiership, held Arsenal to a 0-0 draw in a dreary game at Highbury ..... Page 23

Football: Aberdeen, who last won a trophy in 1990, captured the Coca-Cola Cup, by defeating Dundee 2-0 in an error-strewn final at Hampden Park ..... Page 26

Rugby union: The governing bodies in England and Wales have come to an agreement over the setting up of an Anglo-Welsh club tournament ..... Pages 30, 31

Snooker: Stephen Hendry notched the third 147 maximum break of his career when beating Gary Wilkinson during the United Kingdom championships ..... Page 24

Swimming: China failed to notify Fina, the world governing body, of eight swimmers who tested positive after using steroids, *The Times* has discovered ..... Page 24

Racing: Couldnt Be Better landed the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury to give trainer, Charlie Brooks, one of his biggest successes ..... Page 32

LOTTERY NUMBERS

16,23,28,30,42,46. Bonus: 45

Preview: The often acrimonious business affairs of the Beatles are scrutinised in *All You Need Is Cash* (Channel 4, 10pm) **Review:** *The Beatles Anthology* was a curiously under-excited confection, says Lynne Truss .....Page 43

Budget calculus

The Budget cheers will quickly turn to groans if the Chancellor takes excessive financial risks to buy favourable headlines .....Page 19

Bad Europeans

In Western capitals the statesmanlike language of 1989, with its visions of stabilising the European continent, is being drowned out by accountants .....Page 19

A cause for Christmas

The purpose of *The Times* Christmas appeal is to ensure that in the future as few children as possible ever find themselves in a cancer ward at this, or any, time of year .....Page 19

JOHN REDWOOD

Every year there has been talk of reducing public spending, and every year the total rises .....Page 18

PETER RIDDELL

Even to talk about tax cuts may be misleading. Any reduction in income tax is certain to be only a fraction of the big tax rises of the past two years .....Page 18

MATTHEW PARRIS

The role of science in the reinforcement of cruel but popular myths about race is a dark story .Page 18

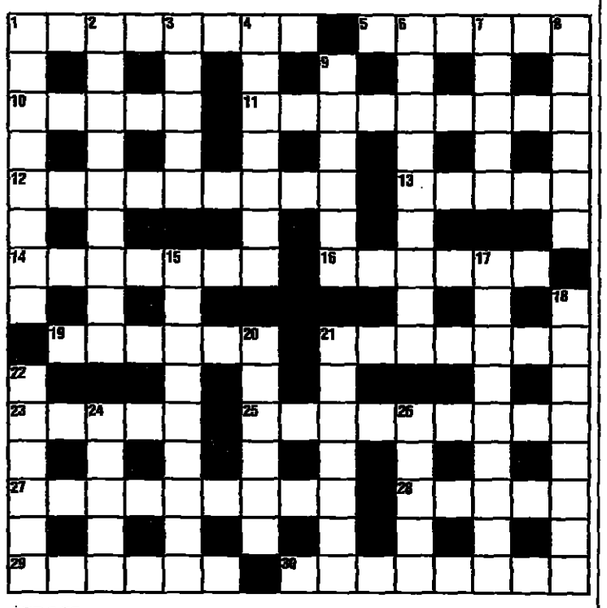
Louis Malle, film director; **Captain Roy Millichap**, airline pilot; **Joan Francis**, actress .....Page 21

Chequebook journalism; Budget tips; school league tables; US leader for Nato? .....Page 19

It would be foolish for Britain to underrate America's capacity for mischief in Ireland or Mr Clinton's lack of scruple when it comes to promoting his own re-election.
— The Sunday Telegraph

We hope that, in his Budget on Tuesday, Chancellor Kenneth Clarke will have one, single-minded determination to cut taxes.
— The Mail on Sunday

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,023



ACROSS

1 The retiring may find it illuminating, on reflection (8).
5 A work originally in French that is obscure (6).
10 Note introducing a condition rejected in European capital (5).
11 Basil and Rosemary have a place in his study (9).
12 Sickly pal needs a walk by the sea (9).
13 Northern soldiers including it as constituent of gunpowder (5).
14 Clothing we hear swimmer intended to put on (7).
16 Finally shed tear — extremely puny and ineffectual (6).
19 Ancient Egyptian cutting a metal for Tutankhamun's mask (3-3).
21 Endlessly put up with us tucking in to spread throughout (7).
23 Support beheading treacherous person (5).
25 Infamous refusal to American imbibing port (9).
27 Highly skilled participant in a put-up job (9).
28 Scholar thrown from engine into ravine (5).
29 A bed in Mayfair is dear, from what we hear (6).
30 Sensational US headline has one reacting with horror (8).

DOWN

1 Soldiers once assembled on trains crossing river (8).
2 Children's high jump (9).
3 Master is anaemic in some degree (5).
4 Skill to limit what incorrectly gets across (7).
6 A suitor's simple argument (9).
7 Moderately turns tail, being of peaceful disposition (5).
8 Regard for opponents at bridge, sound players (6).
9 Fox, for one, cooked about noon (6).
15 Men let oil blend into a soothing agent (9).
17 Element briefly found in the borders of Peru (9).
18 Clothing sailors needed on southern river? (8).
20 Live wire secures rise for large number in party (6).
21 Diabolical contributor to displays at an ice-rink (7).
22 Vacillate in policy, making various points about it (6).
24 Be sparing — remove cream from top of pinta (5).
26 Frill gets male dog upset at first (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 44

KNOCKANDO

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,022 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouces,Avon,Somo	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereids & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, Channel Islands, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Aboyne, Grampian, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Oxford, 0.57in; highest sunshine: Jersey, Channel Islands, 6.4hr.

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a day of sunny intervals and blustery showers. Some of the showers will be heavy and possible thundery, especially in the southwest. The winds will be gusty near showers and may gust to gale force over exposed coasts and hills in southwestern parts.

It will also be blustery and showery over much of Scotland and Northern Ireland, although Shetland will have more persistent rain. Sheltered western parts will see the best of any sunshine and will have fewer showers.

☐ **London, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N:** showers, some sunshine. Wind southeast, fresh. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **SE England, E Anglia, E England, NE England:** sunny spells. Showers. Wind south to southeast, fresh, blustery near coast. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales:** heavy showers. Wind southwest becoming south, fresh or strong. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, N Ireland:** bright spells. Showers. Wind east to southeast, mostly fresh. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **NW Scotland:** sunny spells. Isolated showers. Wind east, fresh. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Shetland:** showery rain. Wind east to northeast, strong. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Outlook:** more showers tomorrow; drier on Wednesday.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

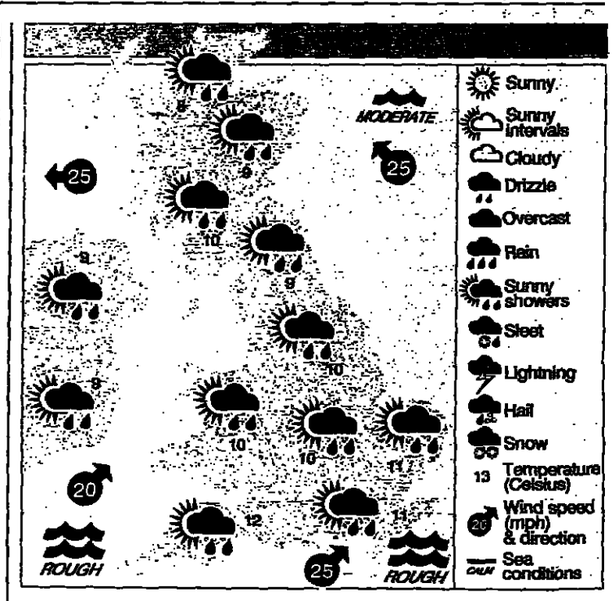
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	F	
Aberdeen	-	0.11	10	50	r	London	0.9	0.28	11	52	r
Anglesey	5.1	0.03	11	52	s	Lowestoft	-	0.07	11	52	sh
Aspatria	2.4	-	10	50	b	Manchester	2.4	0.05	11	52	b
Aviemore	-	0.04	7	45	r	Margate	-	0.17	11	52	r
Belfast	5.2	0.39	9	48	s	Minehead	3.8	0.17	11	52	r
Birmingham	2.6	0.11	10	50	b	Morecambe	1.7	0.03	11	52	b
Bognor R	2.6	0.07	11	52	b	Newcastle	-	0.12	9	48	r
Bournem'th	2.1	0.32	12	54	b	Newquay	0.6	0.32	10	50	sh
Bristol	4.1	-	11	52	b	Norwich	-	0.08	11	52	r
Buxton	1.1	0.20	7	45	b	Nottingham	X				
Cardiff	3.8	0.17	11	52	sh	Oxford	2.6	0.57	11	52	s
Clacton	X					Penzance	1.4	0.17	11	52	sh
Cleathorpes	X					Plymouth	X				
Colwyn Bay	5.4	-	10	50	s	Poole	3.5	0.56	12	54	b
Cromer	-	0.13	11	52	r	Prestatyn	X	-	10	50	s
Doncaster	X					Ross-o-wye	3.8	0.02	11	52	b
Dunbar	X					Ryde	X				
Eastbourne	-	0.21	11	52	sh	Scilcombe	X				
Edinburgh	1.3	0.35	9	48	r	Sandown	2.4	0.09	12	54	b
Eskdalemuir	0.4	0.13	8	46	c	Saunton Sand	X				
Exmouth	3.5	0.17	11	52	h	Scarboro'	-	0.25	10	50	r
Falmouth	0.5	0.11	11	52	sh	Shanklin	2.9	0.14	11	52	s
Fishguard	0.5	0.14	9	48	sh	Shrewsbury	3.3	-	10	50	s
Folkestone	-	0.42	11	52	r	Skegness	X				
Glasgow	-	0.20	7	45	du	Southend	-	0.10	12	54	du
Guernsey	5.4	0.48	12	54	c	Southport	3.1	-	10	50	s
Hastings	0.1	0.27	10	50	r	Southsea	3.0	0.08	12	54	s
Hayling I.	2.5	0.09	11	52	b	St. Ives	X				
Herne Bay	-	0.15	11	52	r	Stornoway	-	0.20	10	50	r
Hove	0.2	0.29	11	52	c	Swanage	3.8	0.31	11	52	sh
Hunstanton	-	0.13	10	50	r	Teignmouth	4.1	0.10	11	52	sh
Isle of Man	5.2	-	11	52	s	Tenby	X				
Jersey	6.4	0.28	11	52	s	Tiree	3.5	0.20	9	48	r
Kinloss	-	0.08	10	50	r	Torquay	3.1	0.09	12	54	s
Leeds	0.1	0.12	8	46	c	Tynemouth	X				
Lerwick	0.1	0.02	8	46	r	Ventnor	3.7	0.18	12	54	s
Leuchars	-	0.20	10	50	r	West-s-mare	X				
Liverpool	3.2	-	10	50	s	Weymouth	3.6	0.24	11	52	sh

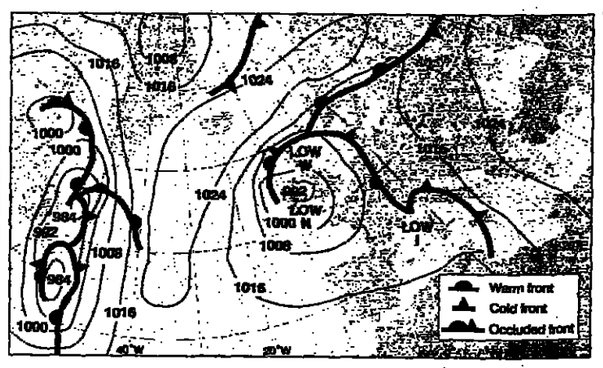
ABROAD

Alaccio	17	63	s	Cologne	8	46	s	Madrid	9	48	f
Alcudri	15	59	s	Corfu	15	59	c	Majorca	17	63	f
Alex'dria	18	64	f	C'phagn	5	41	c	Malaga	15	59	s
Algiers	18	64	f	Dublin	7	45	r	Malta	19	66	s
Amst'dm	12	54	s	Faro	15	59	f	Melb'rne	16	61	f
Athens	13	55	c	Florence	13	55	s	Mexico C	14	57	f
B Aires	12	54	s	Frankfurt	4	39	f	Miami	28	73	f
Bahrain	22	72	f	Funchal	18	64	f	Milan	7	45	r
Bangkok	31	88	s	Geneva	4	39	c	Montreal	-6	21	-
Barbados	25	77	f	Gibraltar	15	59	s	Moscow	2	36	c
Barcelona	16	61	s	Helsinki	1	34	d	Munich	2	36	f
Beirut	16	61	s	Hong K	23	73	s	N Delhi	22	72	s
Belfast	9	48	s	Innsbruck	7	45	s	N York	6	48	f
Belgrade	2	36	s	Istanbul	8	46	s	Nairobi	25	77	c
Berlin	3	37	c	Jeddah	30	86	s	Naples	19	66	f
Bermuda	20	68	r	Jo'burg	24	75	f	Nice	12	54	c
Biarritz	11	52	f	Karachi	31	88	s	Oslo	7	45	c
Borde'x	11	52	f	L Angels	20	68	s	Paris	10	50	r
Brussels	13	55	f	L Palmas	20	68	f	Peking	9	48	s
Budapst	1	34	s	La Toquet	10	50	f	Perth	21	70	c
Cairo	18	64	f	Lisbon	15	59	s	Prague	-3	27	c
Cape Tn	23	73	s	Locarno	6	43	d	Reykjavik	-8	21	s
Ch'church	16	61	c	Luxembg	7	45	c	Rhodes	14	57	s
Chicago	0	32	s	Luxor	22	72	s	Rio de J	30	86	f
Riyadh	18	64	s
Rome	15	59	f
S Fr'sco	14	57	f
Salzburg	3	37	s
Santiago	25	77	s
Seoul	9	48	s
Sing'por	28	84	f
Strkholm	5	41	c
Strasb'rg	3	37	c
Sydney	19	66	c
Tangier	16	61	f
Tel Aviv	18	64	s
Tenerife	23	73	c
Tokyo	12	54	f
Toronto	-2	28	c
Tunis	19	66	s
Valencia	17	63	s
Vanc'ver	12	54	c
Venice	8	46	f
Vienna	-2	28	d
Warsaw	0	32	s
Wash'ton	6	43	f
Wel'ngton	17	63	s
Zurich	2	36	c

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: lows W and N will slip slowly southwest and fill; low I will edge southeast with little change in pressure



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4:42	8.80	5:14	7.04	Leith	5:42	5.59	6:02	5.48
Aberdeen	4:21	4.22	4:39	4.25	Liverpool	2:01	9.38	2:26	9.39
Avonmouth	10:17	12.80	10:43	12.30	Lowestoft	-	-	0:49	2.44
Belfast	2:01	3.33	2:18	3.46	Margate	2:42	4.75	3:21	4.69
Cardiff	10:07	11.37	10:30	11.00	Milford Haven	9:21	7.01	9:48	6.54
Devonport	8:56	5.53	9:26	5.16	Newquay	8:05	6.69	8:36	6.31
Dover	1:48	6.70	2:12	6.46	Oban	8:41	3.84	8:54	3.43
Dublin	2:36	4.10	2:50	4.22	Penzance	7:44	5.39	8:10	5.00
Falmouth	8:08	5.05	8:38	4.67	Portland	9:40	2.04	10:10	1.78
Glasgow	3:44	4.62	4:10	4.60	Portsmouth	2:17	4.80	2:35	4.61
Harwich	2:33	3.97	3:04	4.08	Shoreham	2:02	6.27	2:24	6.04
Holyhead	1:11	5.47	1:29	5.66	Southampton	1:34	4.55	1:54	4.49
Hull	9:19	7.25	9:32	7.34	Swansea	9:27	9.42	9:51	8.99
Ilfracombe	9:01	9.28	9:27	8.92	Tees	8:55	5.25	7:05	5.27
King's Lynn	9:11	6.68	9:32	6.81	W'ton-on-Nze	2:35	4.20	3:09	4.27

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MOON & DAYLIGHT

Sun rises: 7.37 am
Sun sets: 3.59 pm
Moon sets 9.59 pm
Moon rises 11.39 am

London 3.59 pm to 7.38 am
Bristol 4.08 pm to 7.48 am
Edinburgh 3.48 pm to 8.13 am
Manchester 3.58 pm to 7.57 am
Penzance 4.28 pm to 7.55 am

First quarter November 29

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هكذا من الاصل



SMALL BUSINESS 32

Where housing market is not in a slump



ARTS 33-35

National Trust treasures go on show in London



SPORT 43-48

Barclay brings happy touch to England tour

THE LORD CHANCELLOR SPEAKS OUT

Law 37-41

THE TIMES

2

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 28 1995

Outcry likely on Railtrack £1.5bn price

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government's flotation of Railtrack, the publicly owned rail infrastructure company, could yield as little as £1.5 billion, according to estimates by senior rail managers.

Selling off Railtrack for such a price — well below its book value — is likely to provoke a political storm, although rail industry leaders believe that even if the price looks likely to drop below this level, the Government will proceed with the sale rather than face the political embarrassment of abandoning it.

The Government last month announced it was to float Railtrack on the stock market next spring. While ministers have announced no date for the sale, it is expected to be in April and insiders believe it will generate considerably less than the publicly owned company is worth.

Industry leaders accept that the real value of Railtrack is what the City and other investors are prepared to pay for it, rather than the book value of its assets, but even so they believe that a large-scale gap between what the Government gets for Railtrack and its formal value will provoke a political outcry, with Labour arguing that the sale amounts to a giveaway of a key publicly owned asset.

Even the most optimistic estimates calculated by senior rail managers suggest that the flotation is likely to yield only about £2 billion, compared with the £6 billion balance sheet for Railtrack which was used by the Government to calculate its pricing structures with the train operating companies.

Realistic judgments expect the actual sale price to be lower, at about £1.5 billion, although some estimates suggest it could go as low as £1 billion. If the flotation looks likely to generate as little as that, rail industry leaders believe the Treasury will come under strong pressure in terms of its accountability for public finances to pull the sale. But they judge that in spite of such pressures, the Government will proceed. They believe that the political imperatives behind the sale of Railtrack — which ministers regard as central to the eventual complete privatisation of rail — are so strong that ministers will take virtually any step necessary to proceed with it. Sir George Young, Transport Secretary, last month insisted that rail privatisation was now "unstoppable".

Rail industry leaders claim privately that the Government has twice seriously considered abandoning rail privatisation in the face of the mounting difficulties, but in each case has decided to carry on.

They believe that, especially in the light of the failed attempt last year to privatise the Post Office, ministers will resist any move which will give Labour the chance to claim it has succeeded in its declared aim of preventing rail privatisation.

Senior rail managers think that if Railtrack were left in the public sector for longer, it would be more likely to realise a flotation price closer to its stated value — possibly of up to £3 billion — since it would by then have an operating record on which it could be more closely judged.

They suggest that sufficient performance data on Railtrack is unlikely to be available even in time for the company's flotation prospectus when it is issued next year, pointing out that Railtrack's own details on its performance penalties — what it and the train operating companies will pay each other if standards of service fall short of their required level — were only submitted to the Department of Transport last Friday.

Rail managers accept that privatisation remains unpopular with both the public and with the large majority of rail employees, although they believe that support for a privatised rail system is likely to grow once the industry has been moved into the private sector, in line with the experience of other privatised industries.

CHRIS HARRIS



Anthony Parnes, the former stockbroker, with his friend Aida Hersham, after hearing the ruling yesterday

Saunders attacks judiciary after Guinness Four lose appeals

BY MELVYN MARCKUS, CITY EDITOR

ERNEST SAUNDERS, Guinness's former chairman, launched a scathing attack on the Government and the judicial system yesterday after the rejection of the "Guinness Four's" appeals by Lord Taylor of Gosforth, the Lord Chief Justice.

Mr Saunders described the ruling as a "politically convenient judgment" that was in "total conflict" with the 14-1 ruling in his favour by the European Commission of Human Rights in May 1994.

Mr Saunders' outburst followed a stinging conclusion to a 113-page judgment delivered in the Royal Courts of Justice by Lord Taylor, Mr Justice Macpherson and Mr Justice Potter. According to the judges: "The jury clearly disbelieved Saunders' evidence that he knew nothing of the indemnities and success fees. None of the other appellants gave evidence. In our view, the jury were well justified in finding them all to have acted dishonestly."

Mr Saunders was not present to hear the ruling but was represented, in a packed court, by George Devlin, his human rights consultant. Anthony Parnes, the former stockbroker who attended throughout last month's eight-day hearing, listened attentively to the judges' three-hour delivery. Neither Gerald Ronson, the Heron property magnate, nor Jack Lyons, the financier, attended in person.

The court was told: "Despite the mass of paper and the factual complexity of some of the transactions, the issues in this case were essentially stark and simple. They turned on the jury's view as to whether these appellants were proved to have acted dishonestly. The combination of indemnities paid by Guinness to purchasers of its own shares, the false invoices, the huge success fees and the failure to disclose either indemnities or success fees even to the Guinness board, provided ample evidence of a dishonest scheme in which all the appellants played their parts."

The judges ruled that material regarding Turner & Newall's 1986 takeover bid for AE, involving indemnities, should have been disclosed by the prosecution but said they were satisfied that "no prejudice was in fact suffered by any of the appellants". Similarly the judges acknowledged that information regarding the TWH licensed tribunal "was relevant and disclosable." The judges ruled: "In the case of all four appellants, whilst we have held that the undisclosed material should have been disclosed, we are satisfied that the procedural irregularity which occurred as a result of non-disclosure in fact occasioned no prejudice to them. The verdicts of the jury would inevitably have been the same had disclosure been made."

Each of the appellants was ordered to pay £50,000 towards the Serious Fraud Office's costs. Mr Lyons, who saw one charge against him quashed, will pay five-sixths of £50,000. Any payment by Mr Saunders, who is on legal aid, will be subject to the court's agreement.

Lord Mishcon, representing Mr Ronson, said that his client was "naturally disappointed" with the decision to dismiss the appeal but "remains convinced" that "he has not been guilty of any dishonesty."

Mr Parnes, also stated that he was "deeply disappointed" by the verdict. **Pennington, page 27**

BUSINESS TODAY

FT-SE 100	3649.0	(+25.0)
Yield	3.92%	
FT-SE A All share	1781.79	(+8.97)
Nikkei	19543.14	(+327.91)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5078.10	(+29.26)*
S&P Composite	602.40	(+2.43)*
Federal Funds	5¾%*	(6%)
Long Bond	109²⁹/₃₂*	(109¹⁵/₃₂)
Yield	6.23%*	(6.25%)
3-mth Interbank	6⅛%	(6⅛%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	110²⁄₃₂	(109³¹/₃₂)
New York:		
$	1.5510*	(1.5605)
London:		
$	1.5509	(1.5595)
DM	2.2272	(2.2106)
FFr	7.6460	(7.6005)
SFr	1.7973	(1.7820)
Yen	157.80	(158.25)
£ Index	83.2	(83.0)
London:		
DM	1.4370*	(1.4178)
FFr	4.9245*	(4.8760)
SFr	1.1585*	(1.1423)
Yen	101.77*	(101.50)
$ Index	93.5	(93.0)

Tokyo close Yen 101.55

Brent 15-day (Feb)	$16.70 ($16.55)
London close	$384.50 ($383.65)

* denotes midday trading price

Express group to hear bid price soon

MORGAN GRENFELL, financial adviser to an investment group that wants to buy Express Newspapers, is scheduled to pitch its bid on Thursday to United News and Media, owner of the papers (Eric Reguly writes).

Morgan Grenfell will tell Hambro Magan, United's adviser, that the group has raised about £300 million, pledged by Morgan Grenfell Development Capital.

The investment group comprises John Dux, former managing director of News International, the owner of *The Times*, Andrew Neil, former editor of *The Sunday Times*, and an unnamed marketing expert. Mr Dux said: "We have developed a very detailed business plan for the company." The group has no other target if the Express bid fails. **Tempus, page 28**

Markets soar on hopes of tax-cut Budget

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S financial markets soared to new highs yesterday in anticipation of a tax-cutting, but prudent, Budget. But Coopers & Lybrand said that, whatever the Chancellor does today, the "feel-good" factor will not return over the next year.

The accountancy firm has developed a new index which measures the mood of households. It concludes that uncertainty in the jobs market and depressed house prices have kept consumer confidence low and that it will be very difficult for Kenneth Clarke to make householders feel a lot more optimistic about the future quickly.

Rosemary Radcliffe, head of economics at the firm, said: "The negative effect of persistent job insecurity and of low house prices is not going to disappear overnight. Against this background, although tax cuts may give a bit of a short-term boost, they are not going to make a major difference to how people feel."

Coopers' index uses long-term factors of job security and housing plus short-run variables such as personal disposable income, inflation and real interest rates, as well as government spending on health and education. The firm's "feel-good" index peaked in 1988 at the time of the Lawson boom and then plunged to a low point in 1991. It has risen only slightly since and then appeared to plateau.

The markets were in buoyant mood, however, on anticipation that tax cuts will be matched by spending cuts and that this leaves the way open for lower interest rates in the weeks ahead.

The FT-SE 100 index rose 25 points to 3,649, a new record high. On the government bond market, gilts closed about ¾ of a point higher and the long gilt futures contract hit its best level since March, 1994. Sterling, which recently hit record lows on speculation of lower rates, was buoyant.

It ended at 83.2 on its trade-weighted index compared with Friday's close of 83.0, helped by weakness in the market on predictions that the Bundesbank will soon cut official German rates.

The British markets are hoping that a politically popular but carefully financed Budget would give the Chancellor scope to cut base rates as part of a Europe-wide loosening of monetary policy.

Short sterling futures rallied strongly and are now pricing in at least a 0.25 per cent cut in base rates by the end of this year. The Chancellor and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, next meet on December 13.

Pennington, page 27
Stock Market, page 28

Syndicate ventures into Club 18-30

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

CLUB 18-30, the tour company that made its name selling holidays comprising copious sun, sea, sand and sex, has been bought by a syndicate of venture capital companies in a £40 million deal.

A new holding company, Flying Colours Leisure Group, has been set up to purchase Club 18-30; Sunset Holidays, a Bolton package holiday company; and Priority, which sells child-free Mediterranean holidays to 25 to 40-year-olds.

Flying Colours intends to seek a full stock market listing within four years and is looking to set up its own charter airline.

Club 18-30, for some years called The Club, was once part of Harry Goodman's International Leisure Group. After ILG collapsed in 1991, it was bought by management in a deal backed by NatWest Ventures.

It has grown strongly but is too small to float on its own. NatWest Ventures has put up £8 million for the purchase and future investment, as have both Causeway Capital and Phildrew Ventures. A further £5 million each came from NatWest Markets Mezzanine Finance, Intermediate Capital Group and Prudential Venture Managers, plus £1m from Flying Colours management.

Wayne Sanderson, leisure analyst with Merrill Lynch, said holiday stocks were currently very cheap. He added: "Trading conditions could get worse before they get better, but in the long term, the market looks set to grow strongly."

Jeremy Muller, managing director of Club 18-30, will run the new company, in which he has a "substantial" personal stake. David Hargreaves, Hestair CEO and chairman before its sale to BET, is chairman. The three operators are expected to sell 450,000 holidays next year.

A £250,000 advertising campaign last summer generated 450 complaints to the Advertising Standards Council.

Pennington, page 27



Alastair Gibbons, left, and Jeremy Muller

Former Amber Day chief buys Olympus

BY PATRICIA TEHAN

PHILIP GREEN, the former head of Amber Day, and Tom Hunter, the sports stores operator, have bought the loss-making Olympus stores chain from Sears.

The two made the £25 million purchase through their Mayfind acquisition vehicle. Net assets of the business sold amount to £40 million. It includes 123 retail stores, 53 in-store concessions and 22 out-of-town stores.

Sears had recently begun to reposition Olympus and had given it 12 months in which to return to profitability when it received an approach from Mr Green at the start of the month. Sean Eddie, stores analyst at NatWest Securities, described it as "a clean exit from a problem area".

It will be merged with Sports Division, Mr Hunter's sports chain, which has 45 stores and sales of £33 million a year. Mr Green said no decisions had been taken yet on branding, although it would be more cost-effective to operate the chains under one brand.

He said he hoped Olympus would be profitable next year. As a business close to the fashion industry in which rapid decisions have to be made, "it is a business that needs an owner-driver", he said.

Sears will lose £35 million on the sale of Olympus, which was set up in 1978 and made a loss for the past three years.

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Unit trust sales rise to £289m

Monthly net sales of unit trusts rose by £70 million to £289 million in October, the most for six months.

Net institutional sales were £128 million lower at £307 million, leaving total net investment for October at £597 million, £57 million lower than September. The value of funds under management stayed at £107 billion.

Profits rise

Photobition Group, the supplier to the display industry, saw pre-tax profits rise to £1.26 million (£740,000) in the half year to September 30. Eps were 8.1p (6.5p). The maiden interim dividend is 2.6p, due on April 8. The shares rose 3p to 320p.

Pay demand

More than 32,000 white-collar workers at Barclays Bank are calling for a two-hour cut in their working week to 33 hours and a pay rise linked to inflation.

Payout held

Gibbs Mew, the Salisbury-based brewer, has held the interim dividend at 4p. Pre-tax profits rose to £2.5 million for the 24 weeks to September 16 (£1.8 million in 26 weeks). Eps were 14.22p (15.57p). Shares were 315p, up 7p.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.20	2.04
Austria Sch	16.59	15.09
Belgium Fr	48.54	44.24
Canada $	2.216	2.056
Cyprus Cyp£	0.741	0.686
Denmark Kr	9.19	8.39
Finland Mkk	7.16	6.51
France Fr	8.03	7.28
Germany Dm	2.39	2.16
Greece Dr	385.00	360.00
Hong Kong $	12.69	11.69
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1900	4.5400
Italy Lira	2589.00	2434.00
Japan Yen	172.60	156.60
Malta	0.589	0.534
Netherlds Gld	2.632	2.402
New Zealand $	2.54	2.32
Norway Kr	10.35	9.55
Portugal Esc	242.50	224.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.45
Spain Pta	198.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	10.72	9.92
Switzerland Fr	1.92	1.74
Turkey Lira	refer	79804.0
USA $	1.655	1.525

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

ANTHONY UPTON



Erik Tonseth, of Kvaerner, yesterday in the dealing room of SBC Warburg, which is advising the company on its bid

Amec rejects 100p-a-share offer from Kvaerner

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

KVAERNER, the Norwegian engineering group that owns Govan, Britain's biggest commercial shipyard, yesterday launched a 100p-a-share bid for Amec. The UK construction group immediately rejected the offer as undervaluing the company.

Amec, meanwhile, was forced to withdraw its own takeover approach to Alfred McAlpine after McAlpine issued a statement rejecting Amec's two-for-one share swap offer. McAlpine's withdrawal from the takeover triangle leaves a straight fight between Kvaerner and Amec.

By the close of trade yesterday, Kvaerner had secured 14 per cent of Amec's share capital, up from 12 per cent on Friday. Amec's share price closed at 98p, just below the offer price, while McAlpine's slipped back from 159p on Friday to 140p, after its rejection of Amec's bid.

Kvaerner's bid values Amec's ordinary share capital at £202 million, but the company is expected to have to pay about £375 million in total for Amec to cover a further £175 million of preference shares. Kvaerner said yesterday that it did not want to set an offer price for the preference shares until after today's Budget.

Kvaerner's bid price represents a premium of 28 per cent over Amec's closing price of 78p last Wednesday, the day before Kvaerner launched a dawn raid to take a 10 per cent holding in Amec, and an exit multiple of 32 times earnings for 1994.

Erik Tonseth, Kvaerner's president and chief executive, said that his company would dispose of Amec's house-building division but expected to maintain the other divisions, representing 90 per cent of the business, intact. He said Kvaerner was especially attracted by Amec's oil and gas interests in the North Sea and its Far Eastern business.

Amec is expected to launch a full defence soon, but Sir Alan Cockshaw, the chairman, flew to Japan on Friday and is not expected back until later this week. Amec is likely to argue that the company is at the bottom of the building cycle and that Kvaerner's offer does not take into account future earnings growth.

Kvaerner made no comment on possible management changes at Amec if a takeover succeeds, but Sir Alan Cockshaw stands to gain £520,000 from any pay-off. The directors will lose out on their share options as Kvaerner's offer price is well below the average exercise price of 174p.

Airbus to develop long-range jet

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE, the European aircraft-maker in which British Aerospace has a 20 per cent stake, is to develop a long-range version of its big A330 twin-jet (Ross Tieman writes).

The project is expected to cost $450 million. The shortened A330-200 will carry 256 passengers over 6,400 nautical miles, compared with 335 passengers in the standard version, which has a 4,500-mile range.

Engines already in service from Rolls Royce, Pratt & Whitney and General Electric will be used to power the new aircraft.

The launch, scheduled for spring 1998, will intensify already fierce competition with the 767 and 777 built by Boeing of the United States. The A330/A340 has so far won 269 firm orders and 118 options from 39 customers. More than 100 A330/A340s are in service with more than 20 operators.

Market forecasts by Airbus Industrie indicate a demand in the next 20 years for some 3,000 aircraft in the 250 to 300-seat category.

Inquiry into computer company under way

BY ROBERT MILLER

OPERATION Gale, a £1.4 million joint international fraud investigation by the Serious Fraud Office and Devon and Cornwall police into a failed computer company in the West Country, has officially started.

Some 11 officers, led by Detective Inspector Steven Harrison, yesterday began questioning former employees of Rom Data Corporation, of Falmouth, who are owed more than £200,000 in wages. The investigation will cover overseas jurisdictions including the Caribbean island of St Lucia and the United States.

The main providers of funds are the Department of Trade and Industry, which made grants totalling £850,000 to Rom Data, and National Westminster Bank, which made a £250,000 loan under the DTI's Small Firms Loan Guarantee Scheme. Rom Data's directors, including John Dawson, a former Conservative city councillor in Bath who has a history of bad debts in Britain and the Caribbean and who is believed to be in Ireland, and Brad Shephard, are also expected to be questioned by police.

Mr Shephard, an American, was declared bankrupt at Truro Crown and County Court last month.

The DTI yesterday gave holding answers to parliamentary questions tabled last week by David Jamieson, Labour MP for Plymouth Devonport. The department admits that, contrary to earlier parliamentary answers to Mr Jamieson, it did not check the financial background of Rom Data's directors prior to making regional selective assistance grants available to the company.

Mr Dawson's John Dawson Motor (Holdings) company collapsed in the early 1980s and he subsequently left the country before a bankruptcy hearing into his company's debts of £1.4 million and £893,597 of personal debts.

Mr Jamieson said: "It is clear by their hesitation to answer my questions that there are some very serious investigations being conducted at the DTI. At best it is incompetence and at worst there has been a gross misuse of taxpayers' money."

Pink Panther steals Lloyds' EGM show

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

A LLOYDS BANK protester dressed as the Pink Panther at an extraordinary general meeting yesterday to approve the £13.6 billion merger with TSB won the support of more shareholders than nine who were ejected for disrupting the proceedings.

The results of the votes will be announced to the Stock Exchange at 8am today. Most of the 300 shareholders at the meeting voted for the merger, and Sir Robin Ibbs, the chairman, said the board already had proxies representing 524 million shares in favour of the deal and 5.69 million against. There are 1.3 billion shares in issue.

More than half the questions at the meeting were from the Lloyds and Midland Boycott Campaign (Lamb), who called on Lloyds to use its influence with Shell to demand that it "cleans up all existing pollution relating to their activities and to henceforth ensure that Shell as their customer operates to the same stringent environmental standards as are operated in Britain, Europe and North America".

Almost an hour into the meeting, after taking repeated questions about Lloyds' ethical and environmental principles, Sir Robin asked the meeting to vote on whether the issue should be debated no more. Most voted to end the debate on ethical and environmental issues. When protesters refused to sit down, Sir Robin asked "security staff to assist" them from the room.

New sales success for Fokker

BY A CORRESPONDENT

FOKKER, the embattled regional plane manufacturer majority owned by Germany's Daimler-Benz Aerospace (Dasa), has won new orders for 11 aircraft, bringing its total this year to 59.

The company said Brazil's Transportes Aereos Regionais (Tam) ordered five F50 50-seater turboprops, and an airline it declined to identify leased six F100 100-seater jetliners. Tam ordered the F50s in addition to the five it booked at the Paris Air Show last summer, when it also ordered eight F100s.

Fokker is negotiating a rescue with its main shareholders, which include the Dutch Government, to overcome its cash crisis. It has blamed its difficulties on a weak dollar and a sluggish market, but claims to have regained viability after severe cost-cutting and currency hedging. The official selling price for the total 24 aircraft is $564.2 million, but analysts estimate the real price to be 20-25 per cent lower because of oversupply.

Fox to buy half TCC channel

BY ERIC REGULY

FOX, the American television network owned by The News Corporation, the parent company of *The Times*, is set to buy a half interest in The Children's Channel from Flextech, the British media group.

The purchase, which is likely to be completed after the new year, is expected to cost Fox as much as £40 million. TCC, as the channel is known, is 75 per cent owned by Flextech and is, along with Bravo and UK Gold, one of the company's most popular broadcast properties.

TCC broadcasts a variety of children's programming, such as *California Dreams*, and is available to British and Northern European satellite and cable subscribers from 6am to 5pm. It is understood that Fox is to invest only in TCC's British service; the European side will continue to be majority owned by Flextech.

Fox will supply children's programming to TCC, including shows based on the best-selling Power Rangers toys.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Small firm rescues to be made easier

SMALL companies on the brink of financial collapse are to be given a 28-day breathing space in which to organise a rescue, Phillip Oppenheim, the Minister for Company Affairs, has announced. Legislation will provide temporary protection from creditors for companies with annual sales of less than £2.8 million, assets of less than £1.4 million, and fewer than 50 employees.

The changes stem from a review of the company voluntary arrangements provisions of the Insolvency Act 1986. Mr Oppenheim said he was still considering recommendations that creditors should have to give five days' notice before a receiver is appointed. Colin Bird, president of the Society of Practitioners of Insolvency, said the proposals would "turn the company voluntary arrangement into a viable rescue tool for small businesses". He also approved the Government's "commitment to the rescue culture".

Tunstall progress

TUNSTALL GROUP, the emergency communications company, said it continued to make good progress in spite of government restrictions on providing for the elderly and disabled. Mike Dawson, chairman, said: "The question of provision of proper care for frail elderly in every area that we operate cannot be postponed indefinitely." When policies change, Tunstall would be well placed to benefit, he added. In the year to September 30, Tunstall lifted pre-tax profits to £9.6 million (£7.6 million). A 2.875p final lifts the total to 4.365p.

Operation Labis charge

DEVON and Cornwall police and the Serious Fraud Office have charged another man in connection with their joint ongoing Operation Labis, an international "advanced fee" fraud investigation in which investors are believed to have lost £100 million. Bernd Josef Kreuter was charged that between April 1993 and September 1995 he was knowingly a party to carrying on a business, Associated Financial Management, with intent to defraud creditors of that company. He was remanded on police bail until Monday, when he is due to appear in court.

MAM visit for Granada

GRANADA, the media and leisure company, will begin visiting institutional investors on Thursday in an effort to convince them to back its £3.4 billion offer for Forte, the hotels and restaurants group. Gerry Robinson, Granada's chief executive, said that Mercury Asset Management, which holds a 12.5 per cent stake in Forte, "is on the top of our list". MAM has been an ally in the past. Last year, it sold its 15 per cent interest in London Weekend Televison to Granada, allowing Granada to win its hostile bid for the ITV company.

GKN seeks new chief

GKN, one of Britain's biggest engineering companies, is searching for a new chief executive, paving the way for the departure of Sir David Lees, chairman and chief executive since 1988. He is to become non-executive chairman for at least three years from January 1, 1997, after reaching normal retirement age. The senior roles will be split and a new chief executive appointed next year. There is likely to be a number of internal candidates, including David Turner, finance director, and Marcus Beresford, head of industrial services.

Field Group advances

ORGANIC growth, acquisitions and expansion into Europe helped Field Group, the folding cartons maker, to a 25 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £9.07 million in the half year to October 1. The company, which supplies the food, tobacco, drinks, confectionery, cosmetics and photographic industries, saw sales expand by 25.3 per cent to £97.3 million. There is an interim dividend of 2.8p (2.5p), payable on February 19, from earnings of 11.5p (9.4p) a share. The company is installing additional capacity and continues to seek acquisitions.

Vibroplant warning

VIBROPLANT, the specialist plant-hire group with operations in Britain and America, signalled a sharp deterioration in the UK construction market over the past six months and warned shareholders that the plant-hire industry faced a difficult period. The company still lifted profits to £3.68 million before tax from a restated £3.22 million in the half year to September 30. Earnings were 5.10p a share, compared with 4.44p. The dividend is increased to 1.4p a share from 1.35p, due on January 9. The shares fell 5p to 77p.

Atreus reduces losses

ATREUS, the kitchen and bathroom products group refinanced last year by Bill Rooney, the former head of Spring Ram, accompanied reduced first-half losses with two acquisitions and a proposed name change to Full Circle Industries. Atreus is buying two kitchen-makers — Scottwood, for £720,000, and Full Circle, for £100,000 as well as assuming its debts of about £1.1 million. Pre-tax losses were £234,000 in the six months to September 30, against losses of £331,000 last time. Turnover was £2.79 million (£2.94 million).

Tinsley Robor ahead

TINSLEY ROBOR, which supplies packaging to the music and multimedia publishing industries, lifted pre-tax profits to £1.52 million for the six months to September 30, from £700,000 previously, helped by some large contracts and contributions from acquisitions. Earnings rose to 3.7p a share from 1.8p. The interim dividend is 0.75p (0.333p) a share, due January 31. The shares rose 3p to 129p. Tinsley announced the purchase of Arun Labels, a printed labels supplier, for a maximum, profit-related consideration of £1.3 million.

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☐ Guinness appeal a reprieve for the SFO ☐ Bridging the public spending gap ☐ Facing political flak in Oz

Restoring faith in British justice

☐ IT COULD all so very easily have unravelled. A successful appeal in the Guinness case, setting aside for a moment minor questions of guilt, justice and fair play, would have been another disaster for big fraud prosecutions, one which the Serious Fraud Office would itself have been unlikely to survive.

The Department of Trade and Industry inspectors are given certain powers because of the difficulty of bringing financial prosecutions of such complexity. DTI inspectors can question suspects without cautioning them, who must answer or be held in contempt of court.

The aim is that specialised inspectors should not be hobbled by being limited to the same powers available to the bobby on the beat. After that the matter must eventually end in court, and take the same chance as the average jury trial. The best indication of whether such a law is unfair and tilts the burden of proof against the defendant is the pitiful number of DTI prosecutions that end in criminal action.

The Guinness affair was the classic victimless crime. Those who suffered, the Distillers shareholders, were a huge and diffuse class including probably anyone at the time with a pension or similar investment. They were all sold something at marginally less than its true worth, but the loss in each individual case was tiny.

The laws broken by the Guinness Four stand on the boundaries of criminal and civil law — indeed, in many jurisdictions, they would have been dealt with by the civil courts. In the US, sharp-suited lawyers would have sued Guinness plc for millions, to the cost of shareholders who had entrusted Ernest Saunders and his minions with its administration. The Appeal Court decided yesterday that those running the company were ultimately to blame.

The price of ideology

☐ NOTHING is ever sure about the contents of that wretched Budget red box, and those who speculate are often damned the minute the Chancellor stands up. But it is this morning a racing certainty that the private finance initiative (PFI) will be this Budget's philosophical cornerstone.

For this once most ideological of political parties, there seems little exciting in the way of new policy to offer. Tony Blair called the new legislative agenda a mouse of a Queen's Speech. Privatisation, the big idea of the 1980s Conservative Party, has fallen into public disrepute, synonymous now with fat cats, leaking pipes and lucrative directorships for former Conservative ministers.

But wait! The Government is proposing an expansion of the PFI. Not a superstore, nor yet a software company, but, instead, potentially the most far-reaching privatisation ever undertaken in Britain. The 1980s saw market discipline forced on monolithic state corporations. What is now being proposed is no less than the privatisation of public services and the Government's capital budget, as companies are invited to step in and take on the role of funding, developing and building state projects.

The attractions for the Government are obvious. Most relevant to today's Budget, any private money attracted by the PFI comes straight off the Government's capital spending bill. At £22 billion a year currently, this means enormous cuts in public



spending in years to come. Spending can be thus be magically lowered without the damaging deflationary effects of cuts in capital spending. Taxes can be cut to expand people's spending power, apparently without cost. After all, the same money will be spent, the same hospitals and roads built, but the initial costs will be borne by the private sector.

This is classic privatisation. The Government gets a front-loaded dividend. Before, it was the sale price. Now, it is a cut in public spending, funded by higher current spending spread over future years. The Tory enthusiasm for the PFI might stem no less from the chance of saddling a Labour government with all that deferred cost. All this sounds marvellous — except that the private sector isn't playing ball. Where are the returns, business is asking? Is the Government prepared to take any risk? What do we get out of this accounting wheeze? Where, indeed, are all those companies besieging the Treasury for a slice of the PFI action?

This is not a magically cost-free exercise. In the past, privatisations had to be sold cheap to the Sids. Participating companies being persuaded to buy the new model will also want significant sweeteners, in the form of a healthy margin between what they have to pay up front and what they gain from the work they undertake.

Ideology comes at a price. So surely must tax cuts. Imagine the deflation if capital spending is cut but the PFI is not yet, as John Major last week promised, a reality. Perhaps one idea that has been in and out of favour might come to the Chancellor's aid here. The couple of year's gap opening up between traditional public spending on capital projects and the new-style PFI should be made up with the £1 billion-plus proceeds of the much-forecast tax on the privatised utilities.

Thames's luck dribbles away

☐ WHETHER or not the Chancellor today decides to leave them anything to invest, those utilities have already carved out an unlucky record in efforts to spend their profits overseas.

Unlucky, because the diversifications by water and electricity companies in the UK have almost all been disastrous, but through over ambition and incompetence. By contrast, several purchases overseas have fallen apart before they could even prove their worth, and the hitch has been political risk.

Yorkshire Electricity's decision last year to take a 17 per cent stake in Stockholm's power business for £150 million was derailed by a Swedish general election. Now, Thames Water's involvement in a £1.5 billion contract to run South Australia's water services has been caught in sniping between the local liberal-conservatives who orchestrated the sell-off and the (Labour) Federal Government.

Labour does not like the way the three-part consortium has locked the Australian third out of the running of the water operation, by sub-contracting to a business run by the two foreigners. The federal Government talks of "cultural cringe", but the fact is the Poms and their partner Compagnie Générale des Eaux, French and therefore deeply loathed in Oz after the nuclear bomb tests, are being opposed for party political reasons.

A Thames contract in Turkey is likewise delayed by political change. While the British cult of privatisation has been one of this country's most successful ideological exports, it will never be applauded everywhere.

Complete package

☐ CLUB 18-30, the package tour firm that launched a thousand teenage pregnancies, is planning its own airline as part of a merger with another "value-for-money" operator. Splendid news! A careful reading between the lines of the holiday brochures can generally ensure your destination is a yob-free zone. Now you also stand a chance of avoiding the Club's unique in-flight entertainment on the way.

Minorco to buy Tilcon for £330m

BY COLIN CAMPBELL

MINORCO's $1 billion European spending spree gathered pace yesterday with the £330 million purchase of BTR's Tilcon Holdings aggregates business in a deal that signals further consolidation in the UK aggregates sector.

Alan Jackson, BTR's chief executive, said BTR was pleased to make the divestment because it allowed BTR to concentrate on industrial manufacturing.

Hans Slack, Minorco's chief executive, said Tilcon had long been viewed as an attractive acquisition for Minorco, which aimed to build up its industrial minerals division.

Only last week, Minorco announced a $44 million acquisition of additional aggregates interests in eastern Germany. To date, Minorco has spent $1 billion in establishing a European industrial minerals division and expects it to become as important as its gold and base metal interests.

"We aim to build up sources of operating income that are not subject to to the volatility of metal cycles," Minorco said.

The deal is subject only to European Commission clearance, and BTR will use the gross proceeds, of which £10 million will be deferred, to reduce borrowings.

Tilcon, the UK's seventh-largest aggregates producer, operates predominantly in the West Midlands, North of England, and Scotland. In each region, it is a market leader.

Minorco's other UK aggregates interests include Buxton Lime Industries, operator of a superquarry in Derbyshire, and Nash Rocks, a small quarry on the Herefordshire/Welsh border. Minorco says there is limited geographic or product overlap.

In 1994, Tilcon produced 14.5 million tonnes of sand, gravel, limestone and hardstone. The acquisition effectively doubles Minorco's current production capacity.

Tilcon, which operates from 180 sites and employs 2,300 people, made operating profits of £23.7 million on sales of £231.8 million in 1994. An operating profit of £29 million is expected for 1995. Minorco says the deal will enhance earnings.

Tempus, page 28

Spring Ram warns of big losses

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

SPRING RAM, the kitchens and bathrooms company, shook the City yesterday by warning that it expects significant losses in the second half because of extremely difficult trading conditions and tight margins caused by dearer raw materials.

Spring Ram shares fell 7p to 17p, down 60 per cent from their year-high of 43p. The City now anticipates a £43 million loss for the year against a £3.3 million profit in the previous 12 months.

The company sees no improvement in market conditions for the foreseeable future. Roger Regan, chairman, said: "We have taken a large chunk of costs out of the business and the new structure should be in shape by January." Spring Ram also said it may not pay a full-year dividend and would decide in the light of the final results.

Tempus, page 28

Christian Salvesen advances

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

A GREATER trend to outsourcing and strong performances from distribution and specialist hire helped Christian Salvesen to overcome tough conditions in the retail distribution market.

The distribution, specialist hire and food services group lifted pre-tax profits by 8.7 per cent to £45 million in the half-year to September 30. Turnover rose to £348 million from £319.3 million.

Chris Masters, chief executive, said difficult trading in the UK and German food distribution business were offset by strong performance in France. The UK grocery market remained tough.

The interim dividend is raised 2.9 per cent to 3.5p (3.4p), payable on February 5, from earnings up 3.2 per cent to 10.84p (10.5p) a share. Gearing stood at 22.7 per cent. The shares rose 14p to 254p.

Tempus, page 28

Merrydown profits revive

BY MARTIN BARROW

THE successful launch of Two Dogs alcoholic lemonade in Britain underpinned a profits recovery at Merrydown in the first half and the resumption of dividend payments.

In the half-year to September 30 the company, whose principal business is making ciders, saw profits recover to £1.16 million before tax from £340,000. Earnings improved to 7.11p a share from 2.08p.

Merrydown, which passed payment of a final dividend last year, is paying a 1p interim (1p), although the company says it will need to retain more earnings for two to three years to rebuild its balance sheet. Borrowings at half-year were £7.49 million, with gearing of 86 per cent.

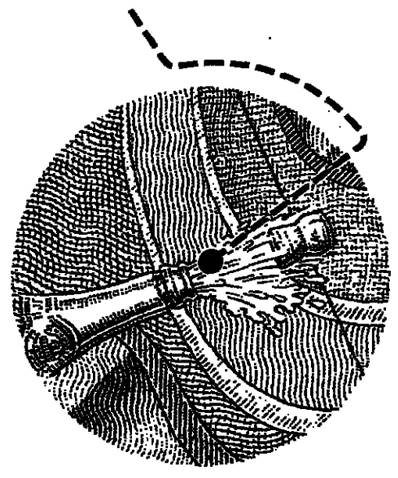
A rise in turnover to £18.43 million from £12.11 million was attributed mainly to the launch in July of Two Dogs. But competition in the cider market remained intense.

The distribution agreement with Whitbread is not expected to provide full benefit until the next financial year. The shares rose 1p to 129p.

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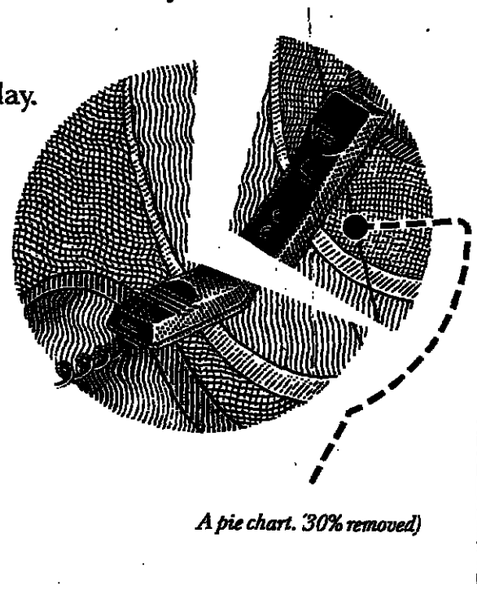


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THE MARKET MICHAEL CLARK



Market gives Chancellor a boost for Budget day



Merrydown chiefs will be avidly awaiting the Budget speech

THE stock market gave a boost to Kenneth Clarke before today's crucial Budget speech, with share prices climbing to record levels while bonds also recorded sharp gains.

Stock shortages and attempts by bears to close any remaining outstanding positions before the Chancellor's speech breathed fresh life into the equity market. This, combined with an opening gain of more than 30 points in the Dow Jones industrial average, enabled the FT-SE 100 index to close just below its best of the day with a rise of 25.0 to a record close of 3,649.0. But trading was thin with less than 600 million shares traded. Even so, it stretches the rise on the year to 583.5, or 19 per cent.

South Wales Electricity was a strong market in late trading, climbing 28p to £10.55 amid growing hopes that Welsh Water is posed to make an offer valuing the company at almost £900 million. The two sides have been in talks, but were said to have delayed making any decisions until after the flotation of the National Grid. **Welsh Water** slipped 5p to 694p.

Stock shortages and bear covering were responsible for double-figure gains among the leaders. **ICI** rose 14½p to 753½p, **Reed** 13p to £10.24. **Courtaulds** 10p to 404p, **BOC Group** 17p to 888p and **Pearson** 24p to 667p.

Legal & General were a weak market, falling 16p to 702p, as a large line of stock went through at a sharp discount. A total of 1 million shares went at 711p and several of 250,000 at 701p. **Inchcape**, the Toyota distributor, touched 231p before ending a further 4p lower at 241p. The shares have fallen sharply after a profit warning this month. Brokers are said to be worried about the prospect of a dividend cut. The sharp fall in the share price could mean the group drops out of the FT-SE 100 when the Stock Exchange steering committee meets soon.

Kvaerner, the Norwegian industrial conglomerate, has wasted little time in moving on Amec, the construction group, up 2p at 98p. It has offered 100p a share, the price it paid for 20 million shares, or 10 per cent of the company, in a dawn raid last week.

BTR rose 3p to 331½p after confirming plans to sell its Tilcon aggregates business to Minorco for £330 million. Alan Jackson, chief executive, said it will continue to focus on industrial production.

The offer of two-for-one values Amec at £202 million. The terms were immediately rejected by Amec, which on Friday announced it was in bid talks with rival **Alfred McAlpine**, 1p down at 140p.

Geest, the banana producer, advanced a further 6p to 148p reflecting last week's approach by Fyffes, the Irish company, to buy its banana interests. Fyffes firmed 2p to 102p. First-time dealings in the **Trocadero**, the London entertainment centre, demerged from **Burford Holdings**, got off to an encouraging start, opening at 42p, later settling at 41p. On Friday, shares of Burford, prior to the demerger, closed at 136½p. In its new form, Burford touched 106p before closing at 102p, ½p firmer on the day.

The management reshuffle at BT appears to have gone down well in the City with the price jumping 16p to 376½p on turnover of almost 13 million shares. James Capel, the broker, has published a buy recommendation and Flemings Securities has upgraded from a "hold" to a "buy". Flemings says next stop for the shares is 400p.

Whessoe rose 8p to 186p after rejecting an £36.5 million offer for Autronica, its Norwegian subsidiary, by Seatex Garex. It said the unsolicited approach significantly undervalued the business.

Associated British Ports fell 10p to 272p after a sell recommendation from UBS, the broker. It disputes the group's accounting procedures, which it believes shows profits in a generous light.

Sears firmed 2p to 103p after announcing plans to sell its Olympus sports goods chain to Mayfind, a company controlled by Philip Green, the former Amber Day chairman, and Tom Hunter, a businessman, for £25 million.

They will be listening intently to the Chancellor's speech today at **Merrydown**. Richard Purdey, chairman of the cider-maker, said the group had enjoyed a satisfactory couple of months in terms of sales, but the outcome for Christmas sales would depend heavily on the Budget. Cider and alcoholic lemonade markets remain competitive. Costs have been rising, forcing the group to raise cider prices on January 1 by 5-6 per cent, before any rise the Chancellor might impose.

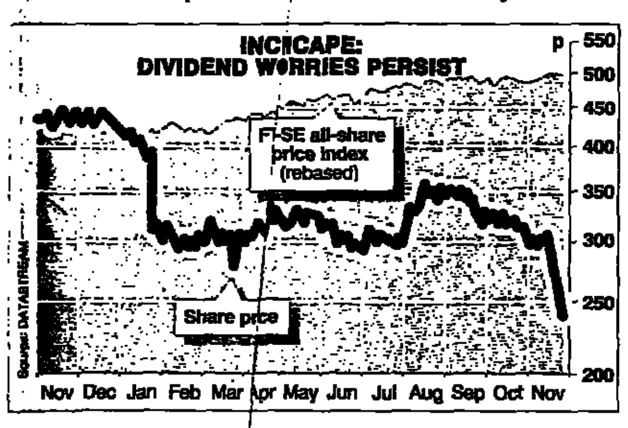
Shareholders of **Calderburn** have had their third profits warning since June. Yesterday's announcement sent the shares off 17p to 48p. The group says all areas of its business remain difficult and it expects to report a second-half loss. There will be no final dividend. Originally, the group had been hoping to match last year's pre-tax profits of £5.05 million but this now seems unlikely. Pre-tax profits in the first half fell 28 per cent £2.05 million.

A profit warning also took its toll at **Spring Ram**, the kitchen and bathrooms group, with the price dropping 7p to 17p. Adverse trading conditions are expected to result in profits falling short of market forecasts. The group gave warning in August that trading during the second quarter had been difficult. A decision will be taken on the final dividend at the year-end.

A rise in the final dividend at **Moran Holdings** helped to offset a fall in profits last year from £1 million to £622,000. The shares firmed 1p to 51p. Better than expected interim figures lifted **Christian Salvesen**, the logistics group, 14p to 254p.

□ **GILT-EDGED:** Strong overseas bond markets and few sellers squeezed prices sharply higher. Brokers were in confident mood, convinced the Budget would be positive for gilts. In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt jumped £¾ to finish at £110³⁄₃₂ as 47,000 contracts were completed. In the cash market, Treasury 8 per cent 2013 rose £⅞ to £102½, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £⁷⁄₁₆ better at £104¹⁵⁄₃₂.

□ **NEW YORK:** Blue chips held most of their early gains at midday. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 29.26 at 5,078.10.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	5078.10 (+29.26)
S&P Composite	602.40 (+2.43)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	18543.14 (+327.91)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	9523.87 (+35.12)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	475.62 (+8.25)

Sydney:

AO	2157.30 (+6.40)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2238.10 (+39.94)

Singapore:

Straits	2107.45 (+7.45)

Brussels:

General	7965.26 (+32.60)

Paris:

CAC-40	1889.76 (-1.19)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	708.60 (+7.40)

London:

FT 30	2673.0 (+18.2)
FT 100	3649.0 (+25.0)
FT-SE Mid 250	3944.3 (+1.5)
FT-SE-A 350	1807.4 (+9.9)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1462.30 (+11.33)
FT A All-Share	1781.79 (+8.97)
FT Non Financials	1879.59 (+11.78)
FT Fixed Interest	113.58 (-0.32)
FT Govt Secs	95.44 (+0.30)
Bargains	33095
SEAQ Volume	804.6m
USM (Datastrm)	188.10 (+0.15)
US$	1.5513 (-0.0092)
German Mark	2.2277 (+0.0180)
Exchange Index	83.2 (+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.1822
£:SDR	n/a
RPI	149.8 Oct (3.2%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	148.7 Oct (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Arlon Props	9	...
BZW Eqts Tesco Elt	294	+ 3
Benfield & Rea	103	...
Chartwell Intl	64	...
David Glass (60)	66	...
Entrprse Inns (145)	148	...
Guinness Flight	92	...
Guinness Flight U	193	+ 1
Guinness Flight W	10	...
Heritage Baths (125)	158	...
Hoare Govett Sml C	96½	- 1
London Town	80	...
Martin Currie Japan	94	...
Martin Currie Jp Wt	30½	- ½
Northern Venture	97	...
Perp UK Sml C (100)	99	...
Premium Undrlg C	125	...
Schroder Asia Pc	97	...
Tom Cobleigh	187	...
Trocadero	40	...
Vero Group	273	+ 2

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cordiant n/p (60)	29	+ 2
Frport Leis n/p (100)	15	...
Mayborn n/p (210)	38	...
Pilkington n/p (155)	35	- 1
Snst & Vine n/p (97)	14	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Shield Diag	109p (-11p)
C Salvesen	254p (+14p)
Ranger	385p (+17p)
BT	376½p (+16p)
Woodside	321p (+11p)
Unipalm	720p (+20p)
Domino	403p (+11p)
Courtaulds	404p (+10p)
Cable Wireless	462p (+10p)
Reuters	627p (+12p)
BOC	888p (+17p)
FALLS:	
A McAlpine	140p (-19p)
Ferguson Int	208p (-22p)
Assoc Brit Ports	272p (-10p)
London & Man	411p (-14p)
Legal & General	702p (-16p)
Granada	639p (-12p)
Huntleigh Tech	793p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 30

TEMPUS

Ahead on aggregate

ANY owner of a sizeable quarry with good reserves and planning permission might better be described as sitting on a gold mine than a pile of sand and gravel. Minorco would probably agree, having paid some 17 times forecast earnings for Tilcon, the collection of aggregates businesses sold yesterday by BTR. Tilcon is the latest of several quarrying operations to be sold this year in an industry restructuring led by price increases and fears of an impending shortage of good sources of construction minerals.

The price paid by Minorco is hardly out of line with recent deals, including the £40 million purchase by RMC of Hargreaves Quarries and the purchase this month by Tarmac of Wimpey's quarry business in a £320 million asset swap. Aggregates prices have risen sharply over the past year, although from a low base. Further cuts or delays in government road-building will affect volumes and the industry is anxious to avoid a knock-on affect on prices. Hence, the flurry of deals.

Recent changes in planning policy put pressure on local authorities to restrict growth of the unsightly quarries. A ban on new sources of supply should boost the value of existing sites, or at least keep prices level in the current period of weak demand. That should be good for Minorco; acquisitions have transformed the balance sheet from net cash to net borrowings of $1.2 billion. With its American gold mining in intensive care and heavy capital expenditure planned on copper projects in Brazil, Minorco needs profits from stone while it waits for the pay-off from metals.

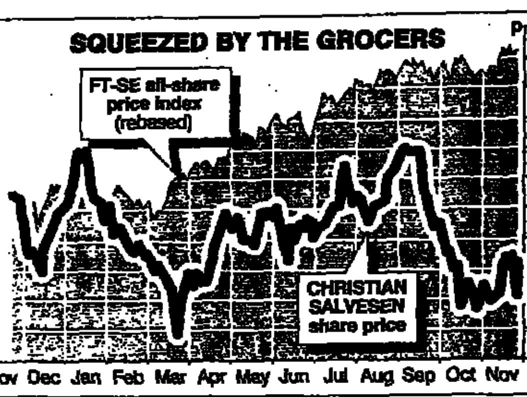
Salvesen

SIGNS that Christian Salvesen is weaning itself from an overdependence on superstores gave a gentle fillip to the shares yesterday. Salvesen has a record of disappointing investors and yesterday's profits — slightly ahead of expectations — made a pleasant change.

Grocery distribution now accounts for about half of the core business compared with 80 per cent three years ago but food price wars and a maturing market mean that the profit percentage is much lower. Distributors are still bearing the excess cost of Sunday trading with higher rates for truck drivers eating into margins.

Europe is the escape route and Salvesen has secured contracts with food manufacturers in Belgium, Holland and Italy while Salvesen's motor component distributor, Swift, continues to acquire new businesses. However, the main motor for Salvesen in Aggreko, the power hire and temperature control business which raised its profits by a fifth in the half year.

Salvesen is making progress but needs to distance itself further from the depressed food retailing sector in the UK. The company's continuing investment in food processing seems unwise given the prospect of a continuing squeeze on margins in this sector. Salvesen shares still trade at a discount to the market which may be ungenerous but on present form they do not yet deserve a premium.



Spring Ram

ANOTHER profits warning at Spring Ram, the kitchens and bathroom company, revives unpleasant memories for investors. The company was led to the brink of bankruptcy two years ago by founder Bill Rooney, issuing three profit warnings in under a year.

The latest warning smacks of misjudgment rather than deception. Last year's modest profit has turned into an expected £43 million loss, scuppering hopes that, Roger Regan, the new chairman, would achieve a quick turnround.

Mr Regan sees the market as the root of Spring Ram's problems. A sluggish housing market and rising raw material prices have hurt the whole building materials sector but Spring Ram is producing worse results than its rivals.

The company clings to the hope that its expensive and painful restructuring programme will start bringing rewards next year, it is sitting on a series of unsolved problems. It remains too close to the fickle consumer, relying heavily on DIY sales. It clings to the loss-making Stag furniture, despite the lack of synergy with the rest of its business.

The one positive side to Spring Ram is exports but these still account for only 14 per cent of the company's turnover. At the current share price, shareholders have little choice but to stay on board but the only consolation is that the board's option price is 54p

Sears

WITH the sale of Olympus following hard on the heels of the disposal of the Freeman Hardy and Willis shoe chain, Liam Strong has rid himself of the two weakest links in the Sears retailing chain.

Fewer retailing brands is what the City demanded and Sears has dumped the non-performers despite protestation that there was no disposal programme.

No longer the home of the gods, the £25 million sale of Olympus will crystallise a loss of £35 million but taking the business off the books should enhance earnings in a full year by 4 per cent.

The City hopes that Mr Strong will not stop with Olympus and FHW. Other possibilities include Saxone, Miss Selfridge or Dolcis. Its Freemans mail order business would be another disposal candidate.

The market is expecting pre-tax profits of £120 million in the current year leaving Sears shares trading on a prospective price earnings of 17.5. The shares are rated below the company's peers in the sector. If the management demonstrates that the pruning is more than a seasonal ritual the gap should close and on that basis Sears looks a reasonable bet.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	890-889	Mar	unq
Mar	932-931	May	1032-1030
May	955-956	Jul	unq
Jul	977-976	Sep	...
Sep	997-998		
Dec	1007 518		Volume: 9037

ROBUSTA COFFEE (£)

Nov	2622-2608	Jul	1953-1950
Jan	2232-2230	Sep	1920-1910
Mar	2085-2082	Nov	1880-1660
May	2005-2000		Volume: 3343

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	305.8-05.0
Spot: 394.2		Dec	298.5-97.7
Mar	354.4-53.5	Mar	297.4-96.7
May	344.5-44.0	May	299.3-98.5
Aug	335.8-35.0		Volume: 2108

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on November 24

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	100.13	113.48	124.57
(+/-)	+1.00	+2.32	+0.25
Eng/Wales:	100.13	112.79	124.62
(+/-)	+1.00	+0.83	+0.17
(%)	10.0	+25.0	+13.0
Scotland:	unq	116.95	124.14
(+/-)	...	+10.19	+0.82
(%)	...	+38.0	-1.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm) CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.1	+0.30
Brent 15 day (Jan)	17.0	+0.20
Brent 15 day (Feb)	16.7	+0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	18.3	(n/c)
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	17.9	(n/c)

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 186 (-1)	C 188 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	160 (+2)	161 (+1)
Non EEC 1H Dec	161 (+1)	162 (+1)
Non EEC 1H Jan	161 (+1)	163 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	90 (+3)	92 (+3)
Naphtha	150 (+1)	152 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd) GAS OIL

Dec	158.25-58.50	Mar	154.75-55.00
Jan	158.50-58.75	Apr	153.00-53.25
Feb	156.75-57.00		Vol: 12371

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	16.99-17.00	Apr	16.34-16.39
Feb	16.72-16.73	May	16.22-16.28
Mar	16.52-16.53		Vol: 23075

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	126.15	Jan	116.00
Mar	128.15	Mar	118.15
May	130.20	May	119.90
Jul	132.30	Sep	110.00
Sep	113.00	Nov	111.00
Volume: 188		Volume: 76	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	270.0
Apr	252.0	255.5
May	unq	285.0
		Volume: 49

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Jan 113.75-114.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Dec 95	1600	1580	1599
Jan 96	1540	1519	1540
Apr 96	1521	1506	1523
Jul 96	1355	1345	1355
Vol: 207 lots		Open interest: 3912	

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2966.0-2967.0	2753.0-2755.0	924125
Lead ($/tonne)	757.00-758.00	730.00-731.00	143000
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1037.0-1037.5	1061.0-1062.0	242250
Tin ($/tonne)	6420.0-6430.0	6450.0-6460.0	29115
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1676.5-1677.5	1711.5-1712.5	963825
Nickel ($/tonne)	8495.0-8497.0	8630.0-8640.0	44142

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Allid Dom.	460	38½	45	50½	4½	10	16
(*498)	500	10½	22	28½	21½	27½	35
Argyll	280	20½	28½	32	5	8½	14
(*297½)	300	8½	17	21	14	17½	24
ASDA	100	8	12	14	5	8	8
(*101½)	110	4	8	9½	11	13½	13½
Boots	550	47	61	68½	3	7	13½
(*590)	600	14½	29	37½	20	25½	34
Br Airways	460	22	35	43	9	14½	21½
(*469½)	500	5	16	23	33	36½	42½
BP	500	17½	29	36½	8	16½	21
(*506)	550	1½	9	16	44	47½	50½
Br Steel	160	13	18½	21½	2	5	8½
(*170)	180	3	8	11	12	14½	19
C & W	460	19½	34	42	16½	24	30½
(*462)	500	6	18½	26	43½	48½	53
CU	600	58	69	75	5½	15½	19½
(*648½)	650	23½	36	46	19	37	41
ICI	750	29½	42	52	17½	34	39½
(*754½)	800	10	21	30½	49	66	70
Kingfishr	500	35½	45½	54	6	16½	24½
(*525½)	550	9½	23	29	30½	42½	50
Land Sec	550	49½	61½	67½	1½	4½	11½
(*593)	600	13½	27	33½	15½	20½	32½
M & S	420	38	48½	53½	1½	5	9
(*453)	460	10½	22½	28½	14	19	25
Nat West	650	37½	50½	61	11½	28	35½
(*670½)	700	13	25	37½	36½	56½	63
Sainsbury	360	24	34	38	3	6½	13
(*376½)	390	7½	17	21½	16½	20	27½
Shell	800	21½	35	42	12	26½	30½
(*802)	850	4	12½	21	48	58	61½
Smkl Bch	700	24½	41½	56	18	29	34
(*703)	750	7½	19½	33½	51½	59	63
Storehse	330	23½	30	38	5½	9	13
(*347)	360	8½	14½	22	20	24	28½
Trafalgar	30	5½	7	8½	1	2	3
(*24½)	25	3	5	6½	3½	4½	6
Unilever	1200	46	84	76½	12½	28½	34½
(*1230½)	1250	16	57	50	35	53½	59½
Zeneca	1250	79	107½	131	21½	49	59
(*1296½)	1300	49	78½	104	41	72	81½

Series		Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	420	29½	37	45	13½	18	24
(*436)	460	11½	20½	26½	37½	40½	45½
Ladbroke	140	17	20	22½	6½	9½	13
(*150)	160	8½	11	13½	17	21	24
Utd Bisc	260	14½	20½	24½	12½	18	21½
(*260)	280	7	12½	17	24½	31	34

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	480	45	56	62½	1½	5	10
(*498½)	500	16	28½	36½	12½	8	23
Thames W	550	24½	42½	49	13	9½	33
(*557½)	600	6	20½	26½	44	8	62½

Series		Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	550	37	46	53½	13½	24	33
(*568½)	600	13½	22½	30	40	52	60
BTR	330	15½	18½	23	9	15	17
(*331½)	360	4	7	11	29	34½	36½
Br Aero	750	66	78½	97½	15½	26	34
(*798)	800	36½	52½	70½	36½	48½	56½
Br Telcm	360	22	28½	35	7	10½	15
(*375½)	390	6½	14½	20	25	27	31½
Cadbury	550	33	39½	50½	20	32½	35
(*554½)	600	13	20	29½	50	62½	64½
Guinness	460	21	28½	34	14	23½	27
(*460)	500	6½	11½	18	41	49	52
GEC	300	24½	32	36½	1	6	10½
(*320)	330	8	15	19½	13	19½	24½
Hanson	180	11½	13	16½	1	7½	10½
(*182)	191	6	—	—	—	—	—
LASMO	160	10	13½	18	4	10½	12½
(*163)	180	3	6	10	2	22½	24½
Lucas	180	14	18	21½	3	8½	10½
(*189)	200	5	9	12½	1	19½	21½
Pilkngtn	172	22	36½	29½	—	4	6½
(*189½)	191	10	15	18½	—	10½	14½
Prudential	420	37	41	48	11	17½	21
(*439)	460	16	21½	28½	2½	38	41½
Redland	360	23½	31½	34	16	19½	22
(*367½)	390	10	17	20	2	37	39
R-Royce	160	16	18	22	—	7½	9½
(*169½)	180	5½	8½	12½	1½	18	20
Tesco	280	22	26½	30	—	10½	13
(*292)	300	11	15½	19½	1	20	22½
Vodafone	220	16	22	26½	11	14	15½
(*221½)	240	7½	13½	17½	2½	25½	26½
Williams	330	15½	20½	23	—	15½	17½
(*331½)	360	4	7½	11	2	34½	36½

FT-SE INDEX (*3649)

	3500	3550	3600	3650	3700	3750
Calls						
Dec	174	128½	85	49½	26	10
Jan	192	152½	115½	84	58½	37
Feb	213	176	141	110½	84	62
Mar	228½	190	156	124½	99½	76
Jun	264½	—	199	—	144	—
Puts						
Dec	6	8½	14½	26	53½	103
Jan	19½	29½	43	62½	87	118½
Feb	28½	41	56½	76½	101½	131½
Mar	43	54	71	89	114½	142
Jun	81½	—	113½	—	158	—

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Abby Nat	600	17	36	43½	11	29	35
(*604½)	650	1½	15	22½	46	61½	66
Amstrad	280	9	20	28	5½	13½	17½
(*283)	300	1½	11	19	18	24½	28½
Barclays	800	18	42	53	16	36	45
(*801½)	850	3½	20½	31½	50	68	75
Blue Circ	300	24	34½	38	1	7½	13
(*321½)	330	5	17	21½	12½	20	27½
Br Gas	240	10½	20	23	3	8	13
(*248)	260	3½	10½	13½	15	18½	24
Dixons	420	14	31	39	8	20½	25
(*423)	460	2	14½	21	37	44	48
Forte	330	22½	31½	32	3	7½	10½
(*348)	360	4½	14½	15½	15½	19½	24½
Tarmac	90	4½	9	11½	2	5½	8
(*91½)	100	1	5	7½	9	11½	14
Hillsdwn	140	16	19½	20½	0	2½	6
(*155)	160	2½	7½	9	6½	10	16½
Lonrho	160	11	15½	19	1	5½	6½
(*169)	180	1½	6½	10	11½	17	17½
Sears	100	4½	7½	9½	2	4½	5½
(*102½)	110	0½	3	5	8	10	11
Thrn Emi	1500	63½	99	137½	9½	36	45
(*1546½)	1600	14	51	85	59½	88½	94½
Tomkins	240	21	26	32½	0½	5	7
(*259½)	260	6½	13½	20½	5½	12½	15
TSB	390	22	27½	31½	3	16½	20½
(*408)	420	6½	10	15½	16	36	38½

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo Well	850	57	75½	87½	9½	25½	33
(*892)	900	26½	46	60	27½	48½	56
HSBC	950	39	64½	81	25½	52½	64½
(*956)	1000	18½	41½	59	53½	81½	93
Reuter	600	38½	57½	67½	10½	22	28
(*623½)	650	14	28	42½	35	49½	53

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Royal Ins	360	33	42	49½	3½	15	21
(*385)	390	16½	25½	34	14½	30	36

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Fisons	260	5	5½	5½	0½	0½	0½
(*264)	280	0	0	0	16	16	17½

Series		Calls Feb	May	Puts Feb	May
Eastern Gp	950	27	26½	—	0½ 1 —
(*974)	1000	0½	0½	—	33 33½ —

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Nati Pwr	460	12½	28½	37½	8	17	26½
(*460)	500	1½	12½	20½	40	42½	50½
Scot Pwr	360	26	31½	38½	0½	8	10
(*383)	390	6½	13½	21½	10½	20½	23

November 27, 1995 Tot: 29753 Call: 12468 Put: 17285 FT-SE Call: 3595 Put: 5446
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Dec 95	3637.0	3669.0	3628.0	3667.0	8849
Previous open interest: 74305	Mar 96	3662.5	3691.0	3661.0	3691.0	1708
FT-SE 250	Dec 95				3950.0	0
Previous open interest: 3500	Mar 96				3995.0	0
Three Month Sterling	Dec 95	93.51	93.55	93.51	93.54	13498
Previous open interest: 372776	Mar 96	93.76	93.78	93.74	93.77	16301
	Jun 96	93.80	93.84	93.79	93.83	7258
Three Mth Eurodollar	Dec 95				94.27	0
Previous open interest: 110	Mar 96				94.66	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 95	96.12	96.14	96.12	96.12	15219
Previous open interest: 904324	Mar 96	96.35	96.38	96.35	96.36	17630
Long Gilt	Dec 95	109-17	110-07	109-17	110-03	48271
Previous open interest: 111238	Mar 96	109-00	109-22	109-00	109-17	21686
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 95	123.29	123.30	123.16	123.19	1022
	Mar 96	121.90	121.93	121.75	121.80	2173
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 95	98.17	98.49	98.12	98.42	100407
Previous open interest: 210799	Mar 96	97.57	97.88	97.55	97.84	17698
Three month ECU	Dec 95	94.72	94.75	94.72	94.75	979
Previous open interest: 21044	Mar 96	94.88	94.90	94.87	94.90	1389
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 95	97.97	97.99	97.97	97.98	1255
Previous open interest: 58090	Mar 96	98.24	98.29	98.24	98.26	2242
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 95	104.14	105.05	104.14	104.81	35503
Previous open interest: 41836	Mar 96	103.92	104.55	103.90	104.43	1775

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7 Low 6½ Week fixed: 6¹³⁄₁₆
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6¹⁹⁄₃₂ ; 3 mth 6⁹⁄₁₆ . Sell: 2 mth 6¹⁷⁄₃₂ ; 3 mth: 6¹⁵⁄₃₂ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6²¹⁄₃₂-6¹⁹⁄₃₂	6¹⁹⁄₃₂-6¹⁷⁄₃₂	6½-6⁷⁄₁₆	6⁷⁄₁₆-6¼	
Sterling Money Rates:	6¾-6¹¹⁄₁₆	6¹¹⁄₁₆-6⅝	6²¹⁄₃₂-6¹⁹⁄₃₂	6¹⁹⁄₃₂-6¹⁷⁄₃₂	6⅝-6½
Interbank:	6¾-6¹¹⁄₁₆	6¹¹⁄₁₆-6⅝	6²¹⁄₃₂-6¹⁹⁄₃₂	6¹⁹⁄₃₂-6¹⁷⁄₃₂	6⅝-6½

Overnight: open 6⅞, close 6½ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	6¹¹⁄₁₆	n/a	6⅝	6½	6⁷⁄₁₆
Sterling CDs:	6²¹⁄₃₂-6¹⁹⁄₃₂	6²¹⁄₃₂-6¹⁹⁄₃₂	6⁹⁄₁₆-6½	6¹⁵⁄₃₂-6¹³⁄₃₂	6½-6⅜
Dollar CDs:	5.74	n/a	5.76	5.63	5.55
Building Society CDs:	6⅝-6¹⁹⁄₃₂	6¹¹⁄₁₆-6⅝	6¹⁹⁄₃₂-6¹⁷⁄₃₂	6½-6⅜	6¹⁵⁄₃₂-6¹¹⁄₃₂

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅞-5¾	5¹³⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆	5⅞-5¾	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5⁹⁄₁₆	5½-4½
Deutschemark:	4⅛-3¹⁵⁄₁₆	3⅞-3¹³⁄₁₆	3⅞-3¹³⁄₁₆	3¾-3⅝	4½-3½
French Franc:	5⅝-5⅜	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5½	5⁵⁄₁₆-5³⁄₁₆	7-5
Swiss Franc:	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2¹⁄₁₆	2⅛-2	1¹⁵⁄₁₆-1⅞	2½-1½
Yen:	½-¼	½-⅜	½-⅜	½-⅜	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $383.30-383.50 Close: $384.25-384.75 High: $385.00-385.50
Low: $382.80-383.30 AM: $385.20 PM: $384.60

Krugerrand: $385.00-387.00 (£247.75-249.75)

Platinum: $414.25 (£267.10) Silver: $5.25 (£3.375) Palladium: $133.15 (£85.85)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Nov 27	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4794-2.4956	2.4924-2.4956	¼-⅛pr	1¼-1⅛pr
Brussels	45.51-45.85	45.75-45.85	12-9pr	23-18pr
Copenhagen	8.5690-8.6300	8.6050-8.6270	1½-⅝pr	3¼-2½pr
Dublin	0.9668-0.9696	0.9669-0.9694	10-7pr	24-19pr
Frankfurt	2.2140-2.2288	2.2257-2.2288	⅜-¼pr	1¼-1⅛pr
Lisbon	231.12-232.59	231.97-232.59	25-53ds	113-158ds
Madrid	188.79-189.62	189.22-189.51	39-49ds	113-158ds
Milan	2471.9-2488.40	2471.9-2475.9	7-8ds	23-25ds
Montreal	2.0952-2.1138	2.0952-2.0982	0.17-0.08pr	0.27-0.16pr
New York	1.5504-1.5602	1.5504-1.5514	0.12-0.10pr	0.28-0.25pr
Oslo	9.7560-9.8120	9.7970-9.8120	1½-1pr	3½-2½pr
Paris	7.6180-7.6530	7.6390-7.6530	1-⅞pr	2½-2pr
Stockholm	10.045-10.155	10.132-10.155	¼-¾ds	½-⅛ds
Tokyo	157.67-158.46	157.67-157.94	1-⅞pr	2⅞-2⅝pr
Vienna	15.570-15.681	15.655-15.681	¾-⅝pr	1¾-⅞pr
Zurich	1.7839-1.7987	1.7959-1.7987	⅞-¾pr	2-1⅞pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3509-1.3518
Austria	10.08-10.09
Belgium (Com)	29.46-29.47
Canada	1.3519-1.3524
Denmark	5.5494-5.5514
France	4.9190-4.9240
Germany	1.4331-1.4336
Hong Kong	7.7350-7.7360
Ireland	1.6030-1.6050
Italy	1596.0-1596.5
Japan	101.62-101.69
Malaysia	2.5422-2.5432
Netherlands	1.6050-1.6060
Norway	6.3093-6.3113
Portugal	149.36-149.46
Singapore	1.4119-1.4129
Spain	121.80-121.92
Sweden	6.5098-6.5198
Switzerland	1.1535-1.1545

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5517-1.5543
Australia dollar	2.0975-2.1003
Bahrain dinar	0.5815-0.5935
Brazil real*	1.4970-1.5012
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.695-0.705
Finland markka	6.525-6.641
Greece drachma	361.0-368.0
Hong Kong dollar	12.0078-12.0171
India rupee	53.86-54.82
Indonesia rupiah	3527.0-3595.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.463-0.473
Malaysia ringgit	3.9465-3.9506
New Zealand dollar	2.3846-2.3880
Pakistan rupee	53.07 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.615-5.739
Singapore dollar	2.1918-2.1948
S Africa rand (com)	5.655-5.757
U A E dirham	5.665-5.789

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	305	Legal & Gn	3,500
ASDA Gp	8,700	Lloyds Bk	1,900
Abbey Ntl	2,500	London Elect	932
Allied Dom	2,000	Marks Spr	4,600
Argyll Gp	1,400	Mid Elec	86
Arjo Wggns	174	NatWst Bk	3,200
AB Foods	89	Nat Power	4,300
BAA	1,500	NW Water	302
BAT Inds	3,000	P & O	2,300
BOC	1,000	Pearson	2,000
BP	6,100	PowerGen	2,200
BSkyB	565	Prudential	8,600
BTR	5,900	REXAM	1,100
BT	12,000	RMC	85
Bk of Scot	556	RTZ	1,900
Barclays	2,600	Rank Org	1,300
Bass	2,600	Reckitt Col	1,100
Blue Circle	652	Redland	5,500
Boots	689	Reed Intl	329
BAe	2,300	Rentokil	663
BA	3,700	Reuters	1,200
Brit Gas	85,000	Rolls Royce	3,200
Brit Steel	6,500	Royal Ins	595
Burmah Cstl	605	Ryl Bk Scot	1,800
Cable Wire	3,400	Sainsbury	1,200
Cadbury	1,900	Schroders	32
Carlton Cms	555	Scot & New	1,400
Cm Union	717	Scot Power	1,200
Cookson	5,500	Sears	3,900
Courtaulds	473	Svrn Trent	634
De La Rue	1,700	Shell Trans	2,800
Enterpr Oil	3,500	Siebe	460
Forte	9,900	SmKl Bch	2,100
GKN	397	Smith Nph	3,800
GRE	4,100	Sthern Elec	150
GUS	1,000	Std Chartd	2,500
Gen Acc	634	Sun Allnce	3,700
Gen Elec	5,000	TI Gp	581
Glaxo Well	3,000	TSB	1,300
Granada	2,000	Tate & Lyle	528
Grand Met	1,800	Tesco	3,500
Guinness	3,000	Thames W	408
HSBC	744	Thrn EMI	479
Hanson	16,000	Tomkins	1,900
ICI	1,000	Unilever	468
Inchcape	7,800	Vodafone	21,000
Kingfisher	3,600	Whitbread	731
LASMO	3,700	Wllms Hld	452
Ladbroke	7,700	Wolseley	680
Land Secs	1,400	Zeneca	293

WALL STREET

	Nov 27 midday	Nov 24 close
AMP Inc	39	39
AMR Corp	71	72
AT & T	65	64
Abbott Labs	41	40
Advanced Micro	21½	20
Aetna Life	74	74
Ahmanson (HF)	27	26
Air Prod & Chem	57	57
AirTouch Comm	28	27
Alberto-Culver B	31½	31½
Albertson's	33	33
Alcan Alumnm	33	33
Alco Standard	45	46
Allied Signal	45	45
Alum Co of Am	58	58
Amax Gold Inc	6	6
Amerada Hess	48	48
Amer Brands	42	42
Amer El Power	37	37
Amer Express	43	43
Amer Genl Corp	33	33
Amer Home Pr	90	90
Amer Intl	89	89
Amer Stores	26	26
Ameritech	55	55
Amoco	67	67
Anheuser-Busch	66	66
Apple Computer	40	40
Archer Daniels	17	17
Armco	6	6
Armstrng Wrld	61	61½
Asarco	35	35
Ashland Oil	33	33
Atl Richfield	109	109
Auto Data Pro	76	76
Avery Dennison	47	47
Avon Products	73	73
Baker Hughes	20	21
Baltim Gas & El	26	26
Banc One	38	38
BankAmerica	63	62
Bank of NY	46	46
Bankers Tr NY	61	60
Barnett Banks	59	58
Bausch & Lomb	36	36
Baxter Intl	37	37
Becton Dickson	68	68
Bell Atlantic	63	63
Bell Industries	22	22
BellSouth	38	38
Black & Decker	37	37
Block (H&R)	45	45
Boeing	73	73
Boise Cascade	36	35
Bristol Myrs Sq	77	77
Browning Ferris	30	29
Brunswick	20	20
Burlington Nthn	81	80
CBS	81	81
CNA Financial	114	114
CPC Intl	67	67
CSX	86	86
Campbell Soup	57	57
Cdn Pacific	18	18
Cpl Cities ABC	126	125
Carolina Pwr	32	32
Caterpillar	60	59
Central & SW	26	26
Champion Intl	47	47
Chase Manhat	60	61
Chemical Bk	59	60
Chevron Corp	49	49
Chrysler	51	52
Chubb Corp	97	97
Cigna Corp	105	105
Citicorp	67	67
Clorox	76	76
Coastal Corp	32	32
Coca Cola	74	75
Colgate-Palmolive	70	70
Columbia Gas	40	40
Compaq Comp	47	48
Comp Ass Int	58	59
Conagra	39	39
Conrail	69	70
Cons Edison	29	28
Cons Nat Gas	43	43
Cooper Inds	36	36
Corestates	38	37
Corning Inc	28	28
Crown Cork	42	42
Dana Corp	29	29
Dayton Hudson	73	73
Deere	93	91
Delta Air Lines	74	74
Deluxe Corp	27	27
Detroit Edison	32	32
Digital Equip	53	53
Dillard Dept St	29	29
Disney (Walt)	63	62
Dominion Res	39	39
Donnelley (RR)	38	38
Dover Corp	39	38
Dow Chemical	70	70
Dow Jones	38	37
Dresser	23	22
Duke Power	44	44
Dun & Brdstreet	61	61½
Du Pont	67	67
Eastman Kodak	70	69

	Nov 27 midday	Nov 24 close
Eaton Corp	55	55
Emerson Elec	74	74
Engelhard Corp	23	22
Enron Corp	36	36
Entergy	27	27
Ethyl Corp	12	11½
Exxon	78	78
FMC Corp	73	73
FPL Group	42	42
Federal Express	77½	78
Fed Nat Mtge	109	107
First Chicago	68	67
First Interstate	135	134½
First Union Rlty	7	7
Fleet Finl Grp	40	40
Fluor Corp	63	62
Ford Motor	29	29
GTE Corp	42	41½
Gannett	60	59
Gap Inc Del	48	48
Gen Dynamics	59	60
Gen Electric	66	66
Gen Mills	55	54
Gen Motors	49	49
Gen Reinsurance	150	148
Gen Signal	32	32
Genuine Parts	39	39
Georgia Pac	76	75
Gillette	53	53
Glaxo Welle ADR	27	27
Goodrich (BF)	70	69
Goodyear Tire	42	42
Grace (W&R)	58	58
Grt Atl Pac Tea	21½	21½
Great Wstn Fin	25	24
Halliburton	42	42
Harcourt General	40	40
Heinz (HJ)	32	31½
Hercules	56	56
Hershey Foods	61	61
Hewlett Packard	85	84
Hilton Hotels	64	65
Home Depot	44	43
Homestake Mng	15	15
Honeywell	46	45
Household Intl	59	57
Houston Inds	46	45
Humana	24	24
ITT Corp	120	121½
Illinois Tool	61	61
Illinova	28	28
INCO	36	37
Ingersoll Rand	37	37
Inland Steel	26	27
Intel Corp	61	63
IBM	96	95
Intl Flav & Fr	50	50
Intl Paper	37	36
James River Va	31	30
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	84	84
Kellogg	75	75
Kerr-McGee	58	57
Kimberly-Clark	75	76
Kmart	7	8
Knight-Ridder	65	65
Lilly (Eli)	98	98
Limited Inc	17	18
Lincoln Nat	46	46
Litton	43	43
Liz Claiborne	29	28
Lockheed Martin	73	72
Louisiana Pac	24	23
MCI Comm	26	26
Marriott Int	38	38
Marsh & McLnn	84	84
Masco Corp	30	30
May Dept St	43	44
Maytag Corp	20	20
McDonalds	44	43
McDonnell D	90	89
McGraw Hill	84	84
Mead Corp	56	56
Medtronic	50	51
Mellon Bk	53	53
Melville Corp	30	30
Merck Inc	58	59
Merrill Lynch	55	55
Microsoft	88	88
Minnesota Mine	64	64
Mobil Corp	105	105
Monsanto	113	112
Morgan (JP)	77	77
Motorola Inc	61	61
Natl Semi	21	21
Natl Service Ind	32	31½
Navistar Int	10	11
NBD Bancorp	38	37
NY Times A	29	29
Newmont Mng	39	38
Niag Mohawk	9	9
Nike B	59	60
NL Industries	12	12
Noram Energy	7	7
Nordstrom	41	42
Norfolk Sthn	76	76
Nthn State Pwr	47	46
Norwest Corp	31	31
Nynex Corp	50	50
Occidental Pet	22	22
Ohio Edison	22	22½

	Nov 27 midday	Nov 24 close
Oracle	45	45
Oryx Energy Co	12	13
Owens Corning	43	43
PPG Industries	45	45
PNC Bank	29	29
PP&L Res	25	25
Paccar Inc	44	44
Pacificorp	19	19
Pac Enterprises	26	26
Pac Gas & Elect	27	27
Pac Telesis	30	30
Pall Corp	26	25
Panhandle East	27	27
Peco Energy	29	29
Penney (JC)	47	45
Pennzoil	40	39
Pepsico	54	54
Pfizer	58	58
Phelps Dodge	68	69
Philip Morris	89	89
Phillips Pet	33	33
Pitney Bowes	44	44
Polaroid	45	44
PriceCostco	16	16
Procter & Gmbl	87	86
Providian	39	39
Pub Serv E & G	29	29
Quaker Oats	34	34
Ralston Purina	63	61
Raychem Corp	52	51
Raytheon	43	43
Reebok Intl	28	28
Reynolds Metals	57	57
Roadway Srvcs	52	51½
Rockwell Intl	48	48
Rohm & Haas	59	59
Royal Dutch	130	130
Rubbermaid	28	27
SBC Comms	57	57
Safeco Corp	71	70
St Paul's Cos	55	54
Salomon Inc	36	36
Sara Lee Corp	31	31
Seecorp	16	16
Schering Plough	57	58
Schlumberger	65	66
Scott Paper	55	56
Seagram	38	39
Sears Roebuck	39	39
Shell Trans	75	75
Sherwin Wllms	39	39
Skyline Corp	18	18
Snap-On-Tools	43	43
Southern Co	23	23
Sprint Corp	39	39
Stanley Works	50	50
Sun Company	29	29
Sun Microsys	78	79
Suntrust	67	66
Supervalu	32	32
Sysco Corp	31	31
TRW Inc	74	74
TCC Inds	2	2
Tandem Comp	11	11
Tandy Corp	47	45
Teledyne	25	23
Temple Inland	49	49
Tenneco	47	46
Texaco	71	71
Texas Inst	55	55
Texas Utilities	38	38
Textron	74	74
Time Warner	40	39
Times-Mirror A	31	31
Timken	41	41
Torchmark	41	41
Toys R Us	23	23
Transamerica	75	75
Travelers	54	54
Tribune	67	67
Tyco Labs	33	33
UST Inc	33	32
UAL	197	198
US Inds	15	15
USX Marathon	18	18
Unicom	31	31
Unilever NV	129	128
Union Camp	49	48
Union Carbide	40	40
Union Pacific	68	68
Unisys Corp	6	6
USAIR Group	12	12
USF&G Corp	17	17
US Life	28	28
United Tech	92	92
Unocal Corp	27	27
VF Corp	51	50
WMX Tech	29	29
Wal-Mart Stores	24	24
Warner-Lambert	88	89
Wells Fargo	214	212
Westinghouse El	16	16
Weyerhaeuser	43	47
Whirlpool	56	56
Whitman	21	21
Winn Dixie	65	65
Woolworth	15	15
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	47	48
Xerox	140	138
Yellow Corp	12	12

مصورا من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

The Chancellor's options: we leave you space to make your own record

Budget day of reckoning

ECONOMY	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
Public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR)	The Treasury's summer forecast predicted PSBR of £23.6bn for 1995/96 and £16bn for 1996/97	The City believes that the Government will have to revise up its PSBR forecasts for both years. The betting is that the 1995/96 PSBR will be revised up to £28bn and the 1996/97 figure will increase to between £18bn and £20bn.	
Growth	The Treasury's summer forecast predicted growth this year of 3%, falling to 2.75% in 1996	The City believes the Treasury will have to revise down its forecast for 1995 to between 2.5% and 2.75%. The betting is that next year's forecast will be left unchanged, or even raised to 3%, if there are particularly large tax cuts.	
Inflation	The Treasury's summer forecast predicted underlying inflation, excluding mortgage interest payments (RPIX), at 3% in the 4th quarter of this year and 2.5% in the fourth quarter of 1996	The City believes inflation predictions will be left unchanged. October RPIX fell to 2.9%, very near to the 3% the Treasury predicted for the full year	
Current account	The Treasury's summer forecast predicted a current account deficit of £2bn for 1995 and a deficit of £1bn in 1996	Given a clear deterioration in the trade trends this year, the City believes that the Treasury will revise its forecasts for the current account to a deficit between £4bn and £5bn this year and next	
Taxes	Total taxation receipts in 1994/95 were £100.4bn, including £68.9bn from income tax and £26.1bn from corporation tax	Income tax cuts of between £3-5bn in taxes are politically expedient and widely predicted	

BUSINESS	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
Utilities		In the last week, some have claimed that the utility companies have been persuaded to offer lump sum rebates to customers. A windfall tax now appears unlikely	
Private Finance Initiative	Last year, it was announced that the PFI would lead to the investment of about £5bn of private sector cash in public projects	The expansion of PFI is widely predicted to raise at least £2bn. Possible projects include the Channel Tunnel Link	
Company Taxation: Capital allowances	Capital allowances are given on plant and machinery and other assets acquired by business	The CBI is seeking 100% allowances on plant and machinery up to £200,000	
Full rate	33 %		
Small companies rate	25 %		
Small companies limit	£300,000		
Employment	The 1994 Budget contained various incentives to look for work rather than stay on benefit	It is thought that the Chancellor will wait to see the impact of last year's measures on the jobless figures. Cuts in the funding of training are possible	

VALUE ADDED TAX	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
Standard Rate	17.5%	No change is expected to the standard or fuel rates, although a 1% rise would raise £2.5bn	
Fuel Rate	8%		
Registration limit	£46,000	An increase in the registration threshold to £48,000 is possible, to take small businesses out of tax	

EXCISE DUTIES	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
Alcohol	Beer: 24p per pint, Cider: 23.8p per litre, Wine: £1.05, Sparkling wine: £1.50, Fortified: £1.50,Spirits: £5.77	The Chancellor is committed to raising duty on road fuels by 5% a year and on tobacco products by 3% in real terms. But complaints from the drinks industry over cross-Channel shopping may mean that he decreases duty on spirits and leaves duties on wine and beer unchanged or raises them in line with inflation	
Tobacco	Cigarettes: £1.69 , Tobacco: £2.14, Pipe tobacco:94p		
Road fuel	Leaded petrol: 36.1p per litre, Unleaded petrol: 31.3p per litre, Diesel: 31.3p per litre		
Betting levy	7.75%	A reduction in the betting levy would please bookmakers who have complained about competition from the National Lottery.	
Vehicle excise duty (VED)	£135	VED could face change from tax on use to tax on ownership, with possible exemptions for classic cars	

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
Benefits in kind	At present, employers Class IA contributions do not apply to any perks except company cars and fuels	The extension of Class IA contributions to all benefits, such as season ticket loans, was forecast. Now a review is expected	
Company cars	Employees are taxed on the benefit itself and on the fuel, if this is provided	The car scale charges are not expected to change. But an increase in the fuel scale charge has been talked about	
Executive share options	All executive share options are now subject to income tax, a move affecting ordinary employees, as well as fat cats	In a concession to the shop floor and middle management, the Chancellor could allow options of less than £40,000 to be subject to capital gains tax	
Save as You Earn and Profit sharing	Tax relief is given on contributions of up to £250-a-month (SAYE), £8,000-a-year (profit sharing)	To encourage employee participation, it is speculated that the Chancellor may double these tax benefits	
Profit-Related Pay	The first £4,000 worth, or 20% of salary, if given in profit-related form, can be free of income tax	The abolition or restriction of profit-related pay has been mooted	
Redundancy payments	The first £30,000 worth of redundancy payment is tax-free	The Chancellor could raise £1bn by taxing redundancy payments	

NATIONAL INSURANCE	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
	The current rates are: Class 1 employed where earnings are more than £58 a week. Employee (contracted-in). First £58 a week - 2%, next £382 - 10%. Employer-Earnings below £58 a week - nil, £58-£104.99 - 3% ,£105-£149.99 - 5 %, £150-£204.99 - 7%, £205 plus - 10.2%	It is thought that the Chancellor could abolish the 2% NI rate for the low paid. But the majority expect no change	

HOUSING	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
Mortgage Interest Relief	Mortgage interest relief is given at the rate of 15% on the first £30,000 of a loan, a limit fixed in 1983-84. Higher rate relief was abolished in 1991; the relief was restricted to 20% in April 1994 and to 15% in April 1995.	The housing industry would like to see a doubling of MIRAS for first-time buyers, or have the relief given as a lump sum at the time of purchase (at a cost of £3.5bn). But the chances of success seem limited	
Stamp Duty	Stamp duty is charged at the rate of 1% on the whole of a transaction of £60,000 or more.	The housing industry wants stamp duty abolished, again unlikely	
Mortgage Protection Insurance	Proceeds of policies are not taxed. There is no tax relief on contributions.	Tax relief on contributions to mortgage protection insurance could encourage borrowers to take out policies	
Housing Investment Trusts	Housing investment trusts are intended to encourage private sector investment in rented housing	Following a white paper an announcement is anticipated	

PENSIONS	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
Lump sum	A tax-free lump sum of up to one-and-a-half times salary is available from company pension schemes		
Tax relief (employee contribution)	15% of salary		
Tax relief (employer contribution)	From 17.5% to 40%, depending on age		
Earnings cap	If you joined your scheme after March 1989, an earnings cap of £78,600 applies to the amount of salary that can count for pensions purposes	To encourage the mobility of higher paid labour, the earnings cap could be abolished, or raised by more than inflation. The Chancellor could improve the popularity of Additional Voluntary Contribution (AVC) schemes	
Long term care	The elderly can apply for state help with their residential fees, only if their capital falls below £8,000	Age Concern is anxious to see a doubling in the limit to £15,000. Discussion is expected of proposals to encourage savings for long term care, such as insurance, or mature pension schemes responsible for saving	

INVESTMENTS	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
Advanced Corporation Tax (ACT)	When a company pays a dividend, it pays over 20% to the Inland Revenue in ACT. Pension funds and charities, as non-taxpayers can reclaim this tax credit	The Chancellor could leave the rate of ACT unchanged but reduce the tax credit from 20p to 15p to raise £1bn	
Tax Exempt Special Savings Account	£9,000 can be contributed over five years (£3,000)	Building societies have lobbied for a change in the rules, allowing savers with matured Tessas to be able to invest the accumulated interest, as well as the capital, in a new account	
Personal Equity Plans	£6,000 (General PEP) £3,000 (single company PEP)	There has been the usual lobbying for the creation of a Pep and Tessa hybrid, the personal investment plan where the gains would be free of income tax and capital gains	
Permanent Interest Bearing Shares	£3,000. Five per cent of certain bonds can be withdrawn each year tax-free	It is rumoured that the 5% withdrawal concession will be abolished	
Savings tax	25% tax automatically deducted from interest	There has been speculation that the tax deducted could be reduced to 20%	

CAPITAL TAXES	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
Inheritance tax	IHT is paid at the rate of 40% on estates worth £154,000, or more. Your home is included	Indexation using threshold at least is expected, or the introduction of an intermediate 20% band	
Capital gains tax (annual exemption)	£6,000. Above this, gains are taxed at 20-40% (individuals)	The various predictions include: the abolition of the indexation of gains and the introduction of different rates for short-term and long-term gains. Indexation of the allowance is generally predicted. Retirement relief could be increased to £300,000	
Retirement relief	Retirement relief for the over-55s is available on the first £250,000 worth of gains on the sale of a family business. Relief is given at the rate of 50% on the next £750,000 worth of gains		

INCOME TAX	CURRENT POSITION	PREDICTIONS	BUDGET STATEMENT
Allowances	£3,525, £4,630 (65-74), £4,800 (75 plus) The allowances are the amounts that you can earn before you pay tax. Pensioners receive higher allowances	Most believe allowances will be indexed, taking the low paid out of tax	
Personal allowance	The married couples allowance of £1,720 was reduced from the 20% rate of tax to 15% in April 1995, making it worth £258 only to a married man. The level of the allowance has been frozen since 1990/91	Any increase in the allowance would be seen as an indication of support for the family. A married parents' allowance for those with financially dependant children has been mooted	
Married couples allowance		A cut of at least 1% in the basic rate is expected, at a cost of £1.6bn in 1996/97 and £2bn in 1997/98. Some foresee a 2% cut	
Rates	Lower rate: 20%, Basic rate: 25%, Higher rate: 40% The 20% rate was introduced in the 1992/93 tax year when it applied to the first £2,000 worth of taxable income. It is the Government's eventual aim to make 20% the basic rate of tax	It is anticipated that the Chancellor will, once more, move to raise the lower rate band by more than inflation, to remind us that a 20 per cent basic rate is the eventual goal. Concern that the numbers of higher rate taxpayers have increased from 2.2m may prompt over-indexation of the 40% threshold	
Bands	20% £1 - £3,200, 25% £3,201 - £24,300, 40% £24,301 plus. To take people out of the tax net, the lower rate band was increased from £2,000 to £2,500 in 1993/94, with a further increase of £500 in 1994/95. In last year's Budget, the band was widened by £200 to £3,200, twice the amount necessary for indexation	Further measures are expected this year	
Age allowance	The 1994 Budget contained measures to prevent artificial avoidance aimed at yielding an additional £1.5bn in the next three years		
Insurance Premium Tax	Insurance Premium Tax was introduced in 1994 Budget. It is charged at the rate of 2.5% on general insurance premiums	An increase of as much as 140% to 6% in IPT is expected. Variable rates are a possibility	
Airport Departure Tax	Airport Passenger Duty is £5 on European flights and £10 on longhauls	Airport tax could be doubled. Added to the rumoured changes to IPT this would fund a 1% cut in the basic rate of tax	



ANATOLE KALETSKY

For the good of the party

A few days ago, I had an unusually frank conversation with a Conservative backbencher. The subject was the same as it always is in conversations with Tory politicians these days: what would be in the Budget and whether it could stave off a seemingly inevitable defeat.

The answer to the question about defeat in the general election was immediate and predictable. As many political commentators have noted, the Tories have taken a cold, hard look at the challenge posed by Tony Blair and his "new" Labour Party. They are now far more confident than Labour about victory: a Labour victory, that is.

What impressed me, however, was my backbencher's attitude to the Budget. I had been arguing that Kenneth Clarke could afford to make big tax cuts this afternoon, but only if he found ways of saving even more money through genuine reductions in public spending.

The Chancellor's top priority, I argued, should be to keep public borrowing moving rapidly towards zero and thereby maintain the conditions for low interest rates. Restoring order to the public finances was the one genuine economic achievement of the Major Government and on no account should he put it at risk.

But my Tory friend's view about the Chancellor's duty was even more passionate than his attitude to the looming Tory defeat: "This is the worst possible time for a cautious Budget. In fact it would be thoroughly irresponsible. A Tory Chancellor should not be in the business of handing over to a Labour Government a balanced Budget with easy scope to cut taxes and expand public spending. Such a thing has never happened before. To hand Labour an economy in the prime of health would practically be a breach of the British constitution. It is the Chancellor's duty to see that Tony Blair does not get a free ride." Naturally, I was stunned by this broadside, but after a few moments I plucked up the courage to try a rebuttal.

Actually, I said, the "scorched earth" policy he was proposing was no part of the British political tradition. It was far from unprecedented for a Chancellor to put public finances in order and then go down to electoral defeat. That was exactly what Roy Jenkins did in the Labour Government of 1970. I had often been struck by the similarities between Lord Jenkins and Mr Clarke, I added.

Both were passionate pro-Europeans when this was unfashionable in their parties. Both were political moderates struggling against extremists. Both were fated to join the gallery of great prime ministers that Britain never had. Perhaps Mr Clarke might one day even find a suitable refuge from British politics as President of the European Commission. My interlocutor, however, was unimpressed.

"All nonsense," he said. "Of course, I know that Jenkins put the economy in order before the 1970 election. But that had nothing to do with so-called responsibility or so-called national interest. Jenkins expected Labour to win. This time we *know* we are going to lose." So scorch the earth if you will, Mr Clarke.

And don't forget that a "Tory" is defined in the *Oxford English Dictionary* as "one of a band of dispossessed Irish outlaw who subsist by plundering".

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Shares at new high

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
2928½	2137½	ABN-AMRO	2865½	- 3½	4.5	10.6
622½	413	Abbey Natl	605	- 3	4.9	12.1
368	250	Allied Irish	359	- 3	4.0	10.4
281	198	Aus New Z	281	+ 2	5.6	..
4075	2531½	Bank Amercatt	4006½	+ 6½	..	..
276	191½	Bank Scotland†	271	- 1	3.8	12.0
812½	557½	Barclays	801	- 1	3.5	10.9
479	288	Bk of Ireland†	468	- 5	3.6	9.4
525	418	Cater Allen	458	- 1	7.9	6.8
4682½	3450	Citicorp	4318½	- 43½	..	..
340½	216½	Close Bros	316	..	3.4	14.3
£162½	£123½	Commerzbk	£149¾	+ 18¾	3.6	..
1355	993½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1193½	+ 40½	0.4	..
3231½	2775	Deutsche Bk	3053½	..	2.4	..
881½	568½	Espirito Santo	562½	+ 3½	6.3	7.5
1611	1138½	Fuji Bank Y	1309	+ 35½	0.4	..
490	395	Gerrard Natl	454	..	6.2	14.7
253	180	Hambros†	203	+ 2½	4.6	..
983	589	HSBC	954	+ 1½	3.7	12.4
947	578	HSBC HK	935	+ 2½	3.8	12.2
350	278	Irish Perm	350	..	3.5	8.1
463	353	Joseph (L)	463	..	4.8	25.9
145	85	King Shaxson	118	+ 2	9.5	9.2
873	530	Lloyds	866	+ 9	3.9	13.2
592	479	Nat Aust Bk	585	+ 6	7.1	..
697	454	Nat West	670	- 4	4.2	10.4
3000	2150	Ottoman Bank	2500	..	6.5	3.4
67	44	Reg Brothers	45	..	2.8	18.0
568½	373½	Ryl Bk Scot	537	- 3	3.3	12.9
1478	908½	Schroders	1333	+ 27	1.3	19.0
1180	823½	Schroders NV	1135	+ 32	1.6	16.2
118	81	Singer & Fried	110	..	4.2	11.4
610	246	Stand Chart	587	..	1.9	14.8
416	217	TSB	408	+ 4	3.5	14.2
121	70	Union	111	..	3.4	..
£145½	9043½	Wells Fargo	£139½	- 50	2.2	..
269½	211	Westpac	263½	+ 2½	5.1	..
295	200	Wintrust	275	- 3	5.2	15.7

BREWERIES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
231	143	Acatt Hldgs	222	+ 1	..	0.4
696½	487	Bass	682	+ 3	3.9	16.7
449	239	Boddington	436	- 3	2.6	22.4
192	137	Burtonwd Brwl	180½	..	3.7	17.5
186	137	Eldridge P 'A'	173	..	3.1	21.0
433	335	Fuller Sm 'A'	409	..	2.6	17.5
540	402	Greenalls Grp	524	- 2	3.2	15.2
658	468	Greene King	628	..	2.8	16.8
297	240	Hardy Hanson	288	- 1	4.2	13.5
160	150	Heantree	155	..	4.5	10.9
3425	3048	Heir J	3113	..	2.2	16.7
347	219	Mansfield†	333	- ½	2.1	16.2
321	266	Minson Thmp	306	..	2.7	15.3
543	391½	Morland	517	..	2.7	15.6
8½	6½	Paramount†	6½	..	4.1	10.8
605	307	Regent Inns	599	+ 2	1.5	33.6
2143½	1287½	SA Breweries†	2143½	+ 18½	1.6	29.0
635	482	Scot & New	633	+ 1	3.6	17.0
337	226	Scot & New P/P	330	..	..	..
309	211	Vaux Group	264	- 2	4.7	14.9
640	448	Wetherspoon JD†	638	- 1	1.6	..
676	521	Whitbread†	673	+ 9	3.8	16.6
585	483	Wolverhmptn D	519	- 1	3.4	13.4
306	186	Yates Bros	306	+ 1	1.3	27.1
475	425	Young 'A'†	436	- 1½	4.3	17.7

DISTRIBUTORS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
113½	86½	ABI Leist	95	- 1	5.7	..
585	495	Adam & Harvey†	498	- 3½	4.9	6.5
21	14	Alexanders	14	..	6.2	23.0
113	88	Appleyard	90	- 1	8.3	9.7
4½	3½	Ass Br Eng	3½	..	2.1	28.5
623	518	BSS Group	565	..	4.3	18.3
46	28	[illegible]	35	+ 2	..	..
24½	15½	Bearing Power	18½	..	7.6	8.1
35	18	Bogod 'A'	28	..	3.4	9.2
483	345	Brammer	437	- 2	3.9	16.8
21	10½	Bridgend Grp†	17	..	1.5	..
96	78	Brit Fittings	82	- 1	4.9	12.4
270	215	Caffyns	253	..	5.7	18.0
88	54	Central Mtr	66	..	5.2	17.9
80	35	Cook (DC)	55	..	3.4	8.1
320½	220	Cowie	285	- 3	4.1	12.3
155	125	Dag Motors	128	..	7.0	10.6
598	503	Dennans El	503	..	1.9	11.1
501	408	Diploma	435	- 1	4.3	..
333	296	Electrocomponts†	325	..	2.3	22.1
247	153	Eurodis Elec	232	..	2.3	16.0
235	64	Eurodollar	87	..	15.3	3.8
120	87	European Mtr	95	..	6.6	8.2
449	388	Evans Halshaw	386	- 2	6.8	8.9
695	512	Farnell Electr	866	- 3	1.8	19.4
72	48	[illegible]	68	..	8.2	16.8
24½	15	Gardiner	19	..	5.4	8.4
30	16	Glenchewton	29	- ½	1.3	..
108	61	Gowlings	85	..	3.3	14.1
185	148	Hares (Philip)	182	..	4.8	12.6
201	142	Headlam†	191	..	2.7	16.7
654	358	Henlys	503	..	2.5	18.6
137	81	Holders Tech	134	..	5.6	25.5
183	88	ISA Intl†	150	- 3	1.4	16.4
430	226½	Inchcape†	241	- 4	7.8	21.8
66	53	Jacks (Wm)	60	..	1.6	11.4
187	142	Kwik-Fit	182	- 1	3.2	15.6
368½	264½	Lex Service	296	..	6.1	15.7
195	146	Lookers	149	..	6.4	8.2
22	9	Malaya Grp	11½	..	5.3	15.2
9½	5	Middlesex	8½	- ½	0.7	19.5
71	36	[illegible]	39	..	..	5.5
503	330	[illegible]	485	..	1.3	18.7
268	78	Northamber	260	..	0.8	20.9
155	135	PCT	132	..	7.0	9.8
283	225	Pendragon	271	- 1	3.9	14.2
186	123	Perry Grp†	156	..	6.1	11.8
146	136	Quicks Group	140	..	5.1	11.9
198	160	REA	191	- 4	2.6	22.7
3½	2½	Reece	3	..	..	..
73	48	Ronson	53½	- ½	2.9	10.9
6½	2½	Ross Gp	3½	..	..	..
63½	37½	SEP Indl	59	- ½	2.5	13.7
17½	8½	Saltire	10	- ½	..	5.7
74½	38	TLS	69	..	3.4	11.7
286	226	Time Products	256	..	4.6	14.8
275	151	Vardy (Reg)	266	+ 1	2.7	16.9
305	240	Wholesale Fitgs	305	..	4.8	19.0
80	58½	Wilshaw†	59½	- 1½	1.7	14.1
90	56½	Wyko	85	..	1.8	..
104	68	Young (H)	103	..	4.4	15.8

ELECTRICITY

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
955	554	East Midlands	874	+ 4	4.1	11.8
978	535	Eastern Grp	974	..	3.6	13.0
990	548	London Elec	910	+ 4	4.5	10.8
1025	621	Manweb	1025	+ 2	3.9	14.0
988	563	Midlands	924	- 9	5.1	9.4
561	421½	National Power†	460	+ 1½	4.5	9.5
271	158½	Natl Power P/Pt	170	+ 2½	4.3	9.8
989½	621½	Northern Elec	954	+ 1	4.6	9.6
477	313	Nthn Ireland	445	..	3.8	10.9
1202	611	Norweb†	1025	..	3.5	10.8
608	457½	PowerGen†	521	+ 3½	4.1	9.8
299	176½	PowerGen (P/P)†	207	+ 5½	4.0	11.5
379	303	Hydro-Elec	359	- 2	4.9	18.4
385½	306	Scottish Power	383	- 2	4.7	11.1
652	394	Seeboard	641	- 1	2.8	13.8
1075	630	Sth Wales	1055	+ 28	3.6	11.0
974	603	Sth Western	800	..	4.0	10.6
977	548	Southern Elec	912	- 8	4.9	10.0
955	599	Yorkshire Elec	887	- 1	4.3	11.1

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
38	23	AAF Inds	25	..	..	..
294	153	Airflow Streamt	285	..	3.5	8.6
48½	41	Amazon†	42½	..	5.8	12.1
528	440	Avon Rubber	524	..	4.0	18.9
291	181	BBA	284	- 2	2.2	..
72½	49½	BSG†	58½	..	6.8	12.4
13	3½	Benson Group	3½	..	4.3	..
340	285	Bostrom†	300	- 3	2.6	16.6
24	17	Bouchead	17	..	7.5	..
14	9	Cavendale	9½	..	3.6	6.5
357	271	ERF	274	..	2.1	16.1
503	370	First Tech	460	..	1.9	17.4
829½	543	GKN	827	- 1	3.4	18.9
3321½	2543½	General Mtr†	3187½	..	2.4	..
1179½	846	Honda Motor	1132	+ 3½	0.8	..
448	304	Laird†	404	- ½	3.6	15.4
440	345	Lucas	405	..	..	..
212	163	[illegible]	185	+ 1½	4.7	56.5
96½	53	Mayflower	95	- ½	2.2	24.7
200	150	Syltone	190	- 2	3.5	17.7
197	134	T & N	134	- 3	5.6	..
378	324	Trinity Hldgs	361	- 1	2.6	19.5

PHARMACEUTICALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1012	425	Brit Biotech	989	- 8	..	..
345	103	Cantab Pharms	325	..	..	..
513	233½	Celltech	511	+ 8	..	..
325	92½	Chiroscience	287	..	..	..
168	31	Cortecs	144	- 5	..	..
288	103	Fisons	254	..	1.2	..
900	587	Glaxo Wellcome	889½	+ 9½	4.2	20.4
294	162	Medeva	276	+ 1	1.6	17.8
719	273	Scotia	627	..	..	..
705½	444	SmithKline†	698½	+ 9½	2.4	20.7
694½	418	SmithKline Unit	679½	+ 6½	2.5	20.1
1317	840	Zeneca	1283½	+ 1½	2.7	26.4

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
566	475½	Allied Domecq	499	+ 7	5.1	18.6
499½	390	Bulmer (HP)	493	- 3	3.0	18.8
148	99	Burn Stewart†	138	..	4.5	29.7
461½	352	Grand Met	436	+ 6	4.1	20.1
536	404	Guinness	460	+ 2	4.3	14.3
445	337	Highland Distl	347	..	2.9	15.5
217	175	Macallan-Glen	203	- 1	0.8	46.0
710	600	Macdn Mrtn 'A'	645	..	2.1	18.1
681	532	Matthew Clark	647	- 5	4.1	..
140	61	Merrydown W	129	+ 1	2.5	..
259	120	Taunton Cider	251	- 1	3.5	24.5

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
415½	354½	BT	378½	+ 16	6.0	13.3
475	350½	Cable Wireless	462	+ 10	2.5	19.5
209	165½	General Cable	192	- 3	..	..
147	116½	NYNEX Cable	126	..	..	..
1765	1475	Securicor	1698	..	0.3	37.2
1130	800	Securicor 'A'	935	..	0.5	28.3
1058	728	Security Serv	895	..	0.8	23.7
195	147	TeleWest	182	..	..	..
285½	177½	Vodafone†	222½	+ 7	2.1	27.3

WATER

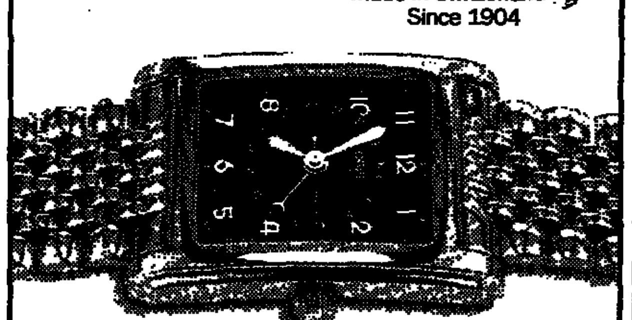
1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
593	443	Anglian†	578	..	5.8	8.8
395	355	Mid Kent Hldgs	358	..	4.4	9.7
641	471½	North West	600	- 3	5.6	7.6
1175	676	Northumbrian†	1168	- 3	3.2	8.1
[illegible]	[illegible]	Severn Trent	668	+ 6	5.4	8.3
2306	1855	South Staffs†	2280	+ 3	3.9	13.3
555	459	South West	496	- 4½	6.0	6.9
721	517	Southern	673	- 2	4.8	8.7
575	456	Thames†	557	- 1	5.9	7.6
808	596½	Welsh	694	- 5	7.7	8.1
115½	100½	Wsrth Cm Pt	106½	..	9.6	..
361	256½	Wessex	343	- 1	4.8	8.6
871	472	Yorkshire	813	+ 4	5.8	9.6

MEDIA

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
490	335	Abbott Mead	484	- 2	2.0	28.7
310	260	Adscene	355	..	3.8	14.7
40	22	Aegis Gp	38½	..	..	15.5
7½	3½	Allied Radio	7½	- ½	..	..
13	9	BBB Design	10	..	..	..
314	155	Barbour Index	314	..	3.6	38.7
10½	4½	Birkdale	7½	- ½	..	..

OTHER FINANCIAL

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
101	75	BWD	89	..	5.9	14.5
163	126	Baltic Plc	144	..	2.8	7.9
78	38	Berry Brch Nbr	40	+ 3	8.1	11.3
230	148	[illegible]	230	..	..	..



Oris Rectangular Classic.
Model 574 7460 40 84
Spherical cut mineral crystal,
Water-resistant to 30 metres,
Automatic movement.
Retail price £575
For further information contact: Oris UK Ltd, PO Box 58, Manchester MCB 3BD. Tel 01204 861135

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

LONGS (over 15 years)

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of: 10% 5%

Source: Ftextel

‡ Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index.

هكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

AB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
01895 259 783

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gtnfund Accs	193.00	204.30†	+ 0.80	0.26
Gtnfund Equity	278.50	287.70	+ 1.60	1.35
Gtnfund Euro	240.00	252.90	+ 0.80	0.91
Gtnfund Eqd Bal	124.40	128.90		0.80
Gtnfund Gilt	76.26	78.62	+ 0.20	5.17
Gtnfund Japan	166.60	176.30†	+ 1.80	..

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01203 553 231

General Acc	612.70	651.30	+ 2.60	2.61
General Inc	524.90	560.00	+ 2.20	2.61
UK Growth Acc	415.30	441.60†	+ 1.40	2.82
UK Growth Inc	276.60	294.30†	+ 0.80	2.82
Higher Inc Acc	765.80	814.70†	+ 2.40	4.18
Higher Inc Inc	436.30	463.60†	+ 1.20	4.18
Bldg/Fnd Inc Acc	204.70	216.20	+ 0.70	5.58
Bldg/Fnd Inc Inc	94.13	99.43	+ 0.34	5.58
30th America	328.80	349.80†	+ 2.10	..
Europe	318.40	338.60	+ 1.50	0.75
Int Excel	93.05	98.36†	+ 0.37	2.82
Int Fndmtls Acc	111.20	118.40	+ 0.50	4.74
Int Fndmtls Inc	77.88	82.86	+ 0.29	4.74
Global Dspn	92.71	98.63†	+ 0.63	0.26
Balanced Acc	59.87	63.70†	+ 0.24	2.87
Balanced Inc	52.36	55.69†	+ 0.24	2.87
Japan Acc	44.71	47.57	+ 0.47	..
Pac Basin Acc	364.40	387.70†	+ 2.50	1.06

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	132.50	140.80	+ 0.30	7.11
High Inc Equity	175.80	187.20†	+ 0.60	4.39
Worldwide Bond	269.80	306.40†	+ 0.30	4.57
Capital Growth				
American Growth	328.60	361.40	+ 3.00	0.37
Asian Pacific	297.10	317.80	+ 2.00	..
Access & Savings	267.60	305.30†	+ 0.80	2.84
Comdty & Energy	111.10	118.80	+ 0.20	0.11
Euro Capital Inc	149.60	160.00	+ 1.00	0.81
-do- Accum	169.60	171.70	+ 1.10	0.80
General	262.40	278.10	+ 1.80	2.96
Japan	117.90	125.10	+ 1.50	..
Mainboard	150.30	159.70	+ 0.80	1.47
US Emerging Cos	170.50	181.80	+ 1.60	..
Ethical	73.73	78.44	+ 0.27	2.59
International	123.60	130.80	+ 0.90	0.62
Dowland & Growth	65.95	70.16	+ 0.18	4.01
Global Earth & Soc	70.17	74.65	+ 0.10	2.70

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

UK Small Cos	1964.00	2041.00	..	..

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 580

Amer Inc & Growth	53.28	55.33†	+ 0.44	0.55
Cash	90.55	90.55	+ 0.02	5.78
Emerging Mkts	82.40	88.21	+ 0.05	0.95
European	120.10	135.00	+ 0.10	..
Exempt	1027.00	1097.20†	+ 4.00	1.76
Exempt Income #	49.62	52.52	+ 0.05	6.47
Far East Emg Eco	112.50	119.30	+ 1.50	0.52
Fixed Interest #	29.27	31.42†	+ 0.11	9.62
Fund Inc Tst	164.40	172.90†	+ 0.30	9.00
Japan	177.30	185.80	+ 2.00	..
Latin American	45.83	47.99	- 0.19	1.02
Pacific	76.30	80.70	+ 0.50	0.33
Property Share	61.81	64.86	+ 0.70	2.70
UK Emerging Cos	68.20	73.09	+ 0.07	1.88
UK Growth	48.91	51.78†	+ 0.19	2.27
Abtr World Port #	77.17	78.53†	+ 0.28	2.08
Ethical	71.65	75.22	+ 0.23	2.34
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	51.15	51.15	+ 0.07	7.34

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0131 549 3222

Select Portfolio	94.07	100.07†	+ 0.19	..

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0171 254 5868

Reolth Property	97.50	104.00	..	5.28

ALLCHURCHES IMV MGMT SVS LTD
01432 365 959

Amley Income	81.74	88.73	- 0.06	2.38
Income Builder Inc	78.01	80.86	+ 0.19	2.88

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
IFA dlg: 01793 514 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	259.08	276.80†	+ 1.20	2.82
Capital	458.40	490.00†	+ 2.20	1.89
Balanced	764.20	816.90	+ 3.40	2.43
Accumulator	1437.00	1535.00†	+ 10.60	2.64
Income Trusts				
American Income	55.76	59.63	+ 0.53	2.99
High Income	425.60	454.90	+ 2.30	3.39
Equity Income	239.10	255.50	+ 1.20	3.26
High Yield	258.00	275.80†	+ 1.30	3.15
Gold Securities	34.37	36.73†	+ 0.12	5.84
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	183.70	196.30	+ 1.90	0.35
European Growth	42.65	45.43	+ 0.19	0.07
International	173.20	185.00	+ 1.20	0.18
Japan	191.30	204.50	+ 2.10	0.01
Pacific	380.30	406.50	+ 3.80	0.61
Secs of America	520.30	554.60†	+ 6.50	0.42
Weste Asset Val	51.45	55.00	+ 0.43	0.22
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	573.10	612.80†	+ 3.40	2.08
Cons & Gilt	44.67	47.75	- 0.09	4.86
Smaller Cos	189.00	202.00†	+ 0.40	1.10
2nd Smaller Cos	178.80	191.10	+ 0.40	1.27
Recovery	151.00	161.40†	+ 0.10	1.62
Min Min & Cdty	168.00	179.50†	+ 0.60	0.66
Gross Earnings	158.70	169.50	+ 1.10	1.65
Technology	287.90	222.20†	+ 3.60	0.01
UK Special Sits	521.00	556.90†	- 0.10	1.56

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01253 626 911

Crescnt Dist Prns	109.60	113.20	..	3.84
Foundtn Pens Prns	64.93	67.45	..	1.44

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 638 0833

Capital	78.15	81.61	+ 0.27	1.80
International	85.61	89.80	..	..

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242

America	283.40	303.90	..	..
Bond	119.10	125.30†	..	6.69
Brit Smlr Cos	110.40	117.40	..	1.69
Chew & Gen #	89.97	73.37†	..	5.36
Europe	235.70	249.70†	..	0.63
Euro Smlr Cos	105.20	112.20†	..	0.63
Income Gwth	375.90	399.90	..	3.84
Japan	309.40	329.50†	..	..
Latin American	84.70	88.85	..	..
Pacific	192.70	205.50	..	1.29
UK Smlr Cos	58.75	62.50	..	1.39
Japan Fd	947.50	987.90	..	..
Mngd Fd	188.40	200.29†	..	2.98

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0171 488 8873

Bit & Cbees	330.56	347.90	..	0.83
Capital Gwth	118.58	124.76	..	2.63
Wrldw Oppo	189.70	210.20	..	0.95

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
0181 534 5544

Balanced Trusts				
Bal Inv Fd Inc	384.90	400.90†	+ 1.10	2.58
European Bd Inc	85.44	89.82	+ 0.16	6.88
Exempt	77.85	82.51†	+ 0.41	4.06
Financial	91.91	98.30†	+ 0.45	2.45
500	488.60	507.10	+ 0.60	2.68
General	265.00	313.90	+ 1.10	2.58
Property	208.90	222.30	+ 0.80	1.26
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.70	106.76		8.02
Extra Income #	127.10	135.90†	+ 0.20	4.94
Gilt & Fxd Int	81.72	86.29†	+ 0.40	7.15
Income	560.80	600.00	+ 2.50	3.80
Income Builder #	65.58	71.82	+ 0.19	5.51
Intl Income	97.33	71.85	+ 0.33	3.23
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	130.90	138.90	+ 0.60	2.25
Inflation	149.80	159.40	+ 0.50	1.11
Recovery	444.80	475.70	+ 0.90	2.78
Smlr Cos Inc	46.39	51.89	+ 0.34	2.14
Special Sits	333.30	356.50	+ 1.20	1.54
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	156.10	166.10†	+ 0.60	0.36
Aust Acc	260.40	278.30	+ 1.20	1.90
Aust Inc	158.90	169.70	+ 0.70	1.90
Euro Gwth Inc	165.60	175.80	+ 0.90	0.74
-do- Accum	178.80	189.80	+ 0.97	0.74
Japan & Gen Inc	157.90	168.80	+ 2.20	..
-do- Accum	158.30	169.70	+ 2.20	..
Japan Spec Sits	72.24	76.52	+ 1.00	..
Dmn Tech Inc	89.26	95.16	+ 0.76	..
Worldwide	180.00	191.10	+ 1.10	0.65

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
0171 214 1894

American Growth	143.30	119.70	+ 1.10	..
Amer Smlr Cos	143.30	159.50	+ 1.40	..
Convertibles	94.78	98.77	+ 0.22	5.76
Eastern	270.70	292.00	+ 2.90	0.30
Equity Income	87.95	94.31†	+ 0.31	4.10
European Growth	328.00	348.10	+ 0.70	0.40
Europe	370.00	397.40	+ 0.90	0.20
German Growth	79.25	84.08	+ 0.65	0.50
Global Bond	88.75	72.43	+ 0.51	6.59
Global Growth	157.20	145.10†	+ 1.20	..
Japan Growth	197.10	209.80	+ 2.80	..
Japan Smlr Cos	148.90	158.30	+ 1.00	..
Korea Trust	77.08	83.06	+ 1.05	..
Portfolio	137.40	146.90	+ 0.50	2.30
-do- Accum	295.50	276.70	+ 1.00	2.30
Japan & Gen	77.30	82.30	+ 0.49	2.70
UK Growth	87.55	93.25	+ 0.39	2.70
UK Smaller Cos	83.52	91.19†	- 0.46	2.50
Select Managers	88.39	95.96	- 0.26	1.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3399

Intl Sixth Port Inc	91.92	97.15	..	..
Special Oppor Inc	55.99	59.56	..	..

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
0141 223 6029

Balanced Growth	122.33	128.45†	+ 0.14	1.54
-do- Accum	139.87	146.12	+ 0.16	1.54
Smaller Cos	122.12	128.29†	- 0.65	0.79
Higher Yield #	50.45	53.39†	+ 0.06	4.30
American Gth Inc	51.31	56.04	+ 0.36	..
European Growth	147.33	155.01	+ 0.98	0.62
-do- Accum	160.24	168.56	+ 1.71	0.62
Global Bond Inc #	37.23	39.22†	+ 0.06	7.17
Mngd Pnsn Inc	45.53	48.16	..	1.46
-do- Accum	46.70	49.38	..	1.46
Int Spec Opps	131.63	138.38	+ 0.68	..
Pacific Gth	125.93	133.26	+ 0.84	0.56
UK General #	94.49	99.40	+ 0.15	3.17
-do- Accum #	98.60	103.72	+ 0.16	3.17
Japan	57.29	60.58	+ 0.35	..
Gilt & Fixed Int #	100.47	104.12†	+ 0.21	8.59

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 480 7218

Short Dated Gilt	87.38	88.25	+ 0.12	8.22

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5050

Bnkrpt	188.40	198.20	..	1.72
UK Growth	288.30	301.30	+ 0.80	2.07
Uk Income	141.10	150.10†	+ 0.40	4.28

CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD
01707 822 100

Can Gen Dist -	214.50	227.30	+ 1.00	1.74
-do- Income Dist	155.59	122.40†	+ 0.30	4.08
-do- Accum	363.50	385.30	+ 1.10	4.08
Gilt & Fxd Int	41.91	44.43	+ 0.17	8.12
Growth Units	228.50	242.20	..	6.25
Bond	226.70	241.30	+ 2.10	8.31
Intl Growth	224.50	239.20	+ 1.40	0.39
North American	279.80	288.30	+ 2.30	1.12
Far East	185.80	208.40	- 0.10	1.45
UK Smaller Cos	89.50	95.14	+ 0.58	0.88
European	48.65	48.58	+ 0.47	2.84
Japanese Growth	204.80	218.20	+ 0.10	4.01
High Income				

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7493 Dlg 0161 831 7455

American & Gen	182.90	194.50	+ 1.30	..
European Inc	86.72	91.76	+ 0.55	1.14
Smaller Cos (4-1)	91.65	97.69	+ 0.10	1.57
Growth	482.50	513.40	+ 2.80	1.23
Income & Growth #	436.20	468.20	+ 1.40	3.85
-do- Accum #	639.20	679.60	+ 2.60	3.85
Japan & Gen	67.38	71.52	+ 1.05	..
Master Portfolio	[119.84]	[113.72†]	+[0.59]	2.28
-do- Accum	[133.45]	[127.29]	+[0.67]	2.28
Special Sits	112.70	119.90	+ 0.78	1.52
High Yield	[114.07]	[114.51†]	+ 4.05	4.35

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0708

Cazenove Portfolio	92.69	98.00	..	2.59
American Portfolio	108.95	115.61	..	0.66
European Portfolio	110.40	117.04	..	0.49
High Income	51.65	51.73†	..	6.08
Japanese Portfolio	85.20	88.35	+ 0.74	..
Pacific Portfolio	138.65	148.59	+ 0.74	1.50
UK Inc & Growth	85.90	92.01	..	3.04
Utility & Bond	57.15	57.91	..	8.80

CENT RD OF RN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

Inv Fund	724.94	735.80	..	4.32
Fxd Int Sec	157.38	158.02	..	9.11

CGNF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

Investment Inc	714.15	724.58	..	4.40
Investment Acc	[31.45]	[31.90]	..	..
Fixed Int Inc	137.58	139.10	..	8.59
Fixed Int Acc	212.29	213.15	..	..

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5999

Beckman Intl	88.55	94.55†	..	3.14
Black Rck-Tech	37.27	40.30	..	..
Acorn Ethical Tst	181.86	189.97	..	0.73
City Fin Assoc	74.56	78.29†	- 0.23	2.08
City Fin America	99.71	104.70	..	..
City Fin Intl	84.61	88.86†	..	0.12
City Fin Japan	144.60	152.15	..	..
Fidlrs Mst Opp	286.30	300.75	- 0.19	2.36
Frsns Hse Inc	188.50	200.72†	+ 0.40	4.54
Buckley Wrld Gth	133.86	141.91	..	..
Financl Cap Gth	140.77	148.19†	..	..
Fidnancial Intl	148.18	[55.56†]	..	..
J Sol Inc/Gth Inc	92.79	98.63	..	1.86

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 774 0771 Admin: 01277 227 3666

Emerging Markets	53.85	57.13	+ 0.24	..

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0800 373 393

American Growth	73.69	78.01	+ 0.47	..
Dragon Growth	65.39	69.62	+ 0.51	1.03
Equity High Inc	87.57	93.03	+ 0.37	4.06
-do- Accum	131.59	130.27	+ 0.51	4.06
Extra Income Inc	28.62	30.64	+ 0.02	7.32
Extra Income Acc	27.70	29.19	+ 0.02	7.32
European Growth	57.29	60.95	+ 0.25	1.14
Evergreen	28.12	30.07	+ 0.10	..
General Equity	93.69	99.59	+ 0.50	2.94
Japan Growth	46.87	52.27	+ 0.74	..
Pathfinder Gwth	56.42	60.59	+ 0.41	2.01
Pref Shr Cos Inc	32.86	35.86†	+ 0.05	1.65
-do- Accum	34.78	36.92	+ 0.05	1.65
Retirement Inc #	27.07	28.86	+ 0.14	5.80
Special Sits	42.75	45.48	+ 0.09	2.10
UK & Overseas	53.73	57.16	+ 0.34	0.94

COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD
01634 898 000

Capital	74.92	77.57	+ 0.53	1.55
Balanced	65.43	68.05	+ 0.26	4.13

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD
0181 685 6818
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)

Income Funds				
Equity Inc	169.99	180.61	+ 0.55	4.84
Fixed & Convertible	46.83	49.44	+ 0.05	6.69
Monthly Inc Pfrs	49.45	52.61	+ 0.11	9.53
Preference Shares	46.44	49.40	+ 0.10	7.69
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	128.43	136.63	+ 0.69	5.95
Managed Fund	72.55	77.16	+ 0.35	3.85
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	42.56	45.28	+ 0.02	1.79
-do- Accum	49.54	52.70	+ 0.03	1.79
UK & General	32.77	34.32	+ 0.17	2.74
-do- Accum	112.58	119.77	+ 0.57	2.74
UK Growth	163.77	174.22	+ 0.57	2.32
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	199.32	212.04	+ 1.65	0.11
Far Eastern Gth	125.86	133.88	+ 1.48	..
Global Bond	83.44	88.85	+ 0.32	5.95
Japan Growth	113.20	120.43	+ 0.61	..
North Amer Gth	203.37	216.35	+ 1.09	..
Oriental Growth	75.75	80.59	+ 0.66	0.07
Worldwide Growth	68.29	73.04	+ 0.60	0.11
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.09	92.69	+ 0.03	6.11
Homesaver Fund	85.91	91.39	+ 0.37	1.65
Dollar Fund	143.45	152.64	+ 0.38	1.99

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
0171 497 5995

Consistent UT	32.97	35.29	..	3.37

COOKE (HENRY) IMV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 358

Growth	168.40	179.20†	+ 1.10	1.69
Incomes	71.15	75.69	- 0.01	5.61
European	65.17	69.33	+ 0.31	7.04
Recovery	167.20	177.90	+ 1.60	2.16

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
0171 283 9494

Equity Dist	862.60	896.60†	..	3.58

CREDIT SUISSE IMV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 699 370

Fellowship Tst	91.34	97.17	+ 0.56	1.54
Income #	363.20	386.00†	+ 0.70	4.27
-do- Accum #	675.20	718.20†	+ 1.30	4.27
Smaller Cos	194.30	206.70	+ 0.50	1.66
-do- Accum	230.50	254.40	+ 0.40	1.66
Inv Portfolio	86.86	94.63	+ 0.30	1.58
High Inc Port #	77.35	82.29	+ 0.21	4.33

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
0171 416 6177

Euro Small Cos	1547.70	1600.20†	..	..
Japan Small Cos	1121.80	1144.20†	..	..
UK Small Cos	1917.90	1998.20	..	..
US Small Cos	1873.40	1913.30†	..	..

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
0171 377 8919

Disc Inc	218.80	230.50	..	2.93

DUMBDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0131 315 2500

European Gwth	297.90	314.80	+ 0.70	0.67
New Asia	209.70	223.90	+ 1.20	0.26
Japan Growth	106.10	112.30	+ 1.20	..
Jap Smlr Co	430.70	456.80	+ 3.40	..
Nth Amer	306.20	355.80	+ 1.80	0.02
UK Inc & Grth	250.10	265.80†	+ 0.70	2.89

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
01242 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	165.70	165.90	+ 0.60	1.62
UK High Inc Inc	153.20	173.80†	+ 0.80	4.15
-do- Accum	218.40	230.20†	+ 1.10	4.15
UK Prf & Fl Inc	60.44	64.08	..	4.88
Emerging Opps	92.18	96.97	+ 0.24	0.96
UK Smlr Cos #	80.51	84.37	+ 0.05	0.01
Extra Income Inc	48.50	51.47	+ 0.05	7.80

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 090 526

American	150.10	159.40†	+ 1.40	1.18
Commercial #	21.35	22.51	+ 0.01	8.11
Equity Income #	135.50	144.00	+ 0.50	3.65
Eastern	52.35	55.48	+ 0.01	0.36
Financial	48.38	52.43	+ 0.10	1.43
Growth & Inc #	265.50	282.10	- 0.30	2.73
High Yld #	168.90	179.20†	+ 0.70	4.18
International	389.10	424.50	+ 2.40	0.12
Int Cap Inc	97.35	103.80†	+ 0.60	2.65
Latin American	24.41	25.94	- 0.03	..
Pacific	77.84	82.48	+ 0.66	..
Prof High Inc	71.27	73.06†	+ 0.04	7.15
Tokyo	219.00	232.50	+ 2.80	..
UK Smaller Cos	252.80	268.60	+ 0.50	1.02

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Brit Director Dlgs	98.69	105.10	+ 1.12	1.57
Growth Acc	238.02	254.23	+ 6.27	0.50
Income	503.05	519.51	+ 5.85	5.23

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Endurance Fd	212.20	225.70	..	1.22

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Far Eastern	280.21	309.59	+ 2.73	1.16
High Income	135.41	142.54†	+ 0.61	4.81
Intl Growth	121.30	127.68	+ 1.03	0.50
North American	132.32	139.28	+ 1.37	1.56
Pension	129.34	136.04	+ 0.99	3.26
Smaller Cos	87.45	92.11	+ 0.64	0.39
Special Sits	88.35	93.00	- 0.04	3.12
Tst of Inv Trsts	169.91	204.12	+ 0.36	1.29

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Smaller Cos Inc	198.14	208.98†	+ 0.02	1.35
Smaller Cos Acc	347.12	368.29†	+ 0.05	1.35
Recovery Inc	49.82	52.15†	+ 0.03	1.54
Recovery Acc	54.17	53.37†	+ 0.02	1.54

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
01392 412 144

Capital Growth	87.98	94.25†	+ 0.84	..
Fd of Inv Trsts	47.75	50.94	+ 0.14	0.57
High Income #	41.07	44.01†	- 0.07	10.45
Warrant	51.58	55.04	- 0.14	..
Zero Preference	41.51	44.36	- 0.02	..

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Income Plus	126.90	126.60	+ 0.10	4.12
Inverse Eq Inc	93.66	98.59†	+ 0.11	1.50
Managed Income	44.68	47.02	+ 0.04	2.49
Far East Inc	64.34	68.34†	+ 0.52	2.41
Global Convertible	24.19	25.80	+ 0.03	2.71
UK Inc Gth	27.86	29.44	+ 0.10	2.20
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	59.67	63.01	+ 0.24	..
Americas	293.20	310.70†	+ 2.40	..
Amer Spec Sits	138.76	167.35	+ 2.20	..
Japan Smaller Cos	34.51	36.62	+ 0.39	..
European	155.90	207.60	+ 0.30	0.65
European Opps	69.79	74.21	+ 0.43	0.15
Global Pac	27.21	28.94	- 0.04	0.77
UK Growth	108.30	112.00	..	1.26
Growth & Inc	158.50	168.60	+ 0.60	2.77
Intl PEP	42.12	44.79	+ 0.24	1.98
Japan Spec Sits	94.63	99.13	+ 1.31	..
Japan	178.70	190.02	+ 2.39	..
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Manchester	56.71	62.45	+ 0.21	..
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Cap Profits	151.70	154.10	+ 0.70	1.47
Special Opps	131.30	132.83†	..	1.50
Growth Inc	33.68	34.37†	+ 0.06	1.36
Pension Portfolio	442.30	452.00	..	1.86

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European	128.88	137.10	+ 0.70	0.59
Emrg Asian	146.36	156.50†	+ 1.80	..
High Income	71.32	22.84†	+ 0.05	9.94
UK Growth	118.10	126.40	+ 0.40	2.42
UK Income	107.38	114.50†	+ 0.20	4.35
US Smaller Cos	383.00	393.00†	+ 2.60	..

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-do- Int Tst Inc	77.08	81.06	..	4.19
Investment Trust	96.84	103.69	+ 0.12	..
UK Smaller Cos	92.07	98.61	- 0.87	0.96

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-do- Access	71.85	75.76	+ 0.72	..
Amer Smlr Cos	89.40	93.90	+ 0.60	..
-do- Access	89.40	93.90	+ 0.60	..
Capital Tst	336.30	357.50	+ 0.10	1.45
-do- Accum	466.20	519.70	+ 0.10	1.45
Cont Smlr Cos	57.67	61.50	+ 0.16	0.63
-do- Accum	58.66	64.91	+ 0.19	0.63
Convertible	133.50	142.09	+ 0.10	4.95
-do- Accum	275.40	292.99	+ 0.30	4.95
Emerging Markets	62.63	66

More start-ups despite low level of confidence

BY RODNEY HOBSON

MORE small businesses are starting up and fewer closing down in spite of the low level of business confidence, according to Barclays and NatWest banks.

However, many would-be entrepreneurs are staying in a full-time job while they run their own business in their spare time. This represents a "significant shift" in the nature of the employment market, Barclays says.

The two banks produce different estimates of start-ups in July-September, usually the quietest quarter for new ventures. Barclays puts the figure at 111,000, a 4 per cent increase on the comparable period last year and 2,000 more than in the second quarter. NatWest's estimate is 85,000, but it says that is a 10 per cent rise on the second quarter, when again NatWest had a lower figure.

NatWest expects a further 95,000 businesses to start up by the end of the year. That would bring the 1995 total to 350,000. Because figures for the first half were so poor, the total will fall 5 per cent below last year's figures. Barclays says that only 108,000 businesses closed in the third quarter, 4,000 fewer than in the second quarter. In the first nine months of this year, start-ups outnumbered closures by 14,000.

However, many new businesses are formed as a second source of income for people already in full-time employment, says Barclays. Of the 1.3 million people with a second job, self-employment accounts for 385,000. In 1981, only 33,000 had self-employment as a second job.

David Lavarack, small business services director at Barclays, said: "This may reflect a more considered approach by potential entrepreneurs who at first set up on their own on a part-time basis while they assess the likelihood that their business will be able to support them as a full-time occupation. "In addition, as technological advances are made, there are increased opportunities to work from home."

He says many people took on second employment between 1989 and 1993 as a safeguard against redundancy. Most were aged between 35 and 55, people who were more cautious but less likely to be tied down with young children.



"I am waiting to see if they remember it in the Budget"

Homes made to measure

BY DAVID ASKHAM



DAVID ASKHAM

Jenny and Brian Nickolls at their museum in Whimple, Devon, with a working model water mill

THE housing slump does not worry Brian and Jenny Nickolls. The homes they sell are 1/12 scale miniatures, made with precision right down to the furniture and upholstery.

They established Dolphin Miniatures in 1972 and have built up the business steadily. The Rural Development Commission helped them to obtain planning permission to convert their first premises when they were originally located in the New Forest. They are now based at Whimple near Exeter.

At first, the business concentrated on making wooden stables and horse-drawn vehicles for a trade customer in Salisbury. But they decided not to rely heavily on one customer. So the range was extended to include buildings of all kinds and the couple began to promote their work at exhibitions.

In 1987, they won the British Toymakers' Guild Toymaker of the Year award, leading to many more commissions from customers both in the UK and abroad, and a coffee-table book on making miniature houses was published by David & Charles. More than half of their output has been exported to Japan, Germany, France and Switzerland.

Authentic materials are used wherever possible and to replicate almost every piece of furnishing to be found inside an original building. Mr Nickolls even produces miniature jigsaw puzzles less than 1½ inches square with 20 individual pieces. Salvers and chalices are made in pure silver. He learnt the skills at classes under the guiding hand of a retired silversmith.

Mrs Nickolls makes the fabric items such as curtains and bed quilts and shares the research. For one building, Mr Nickolls studied thatching with a professional thatcher to ensure realism, substituting coconut fibre for traditional reed.

Prices for a Dolphin house range from about £750 for an empty shop to ten times that amount for a four-feet wide Georgian home. No two commissions are identical so specific quotations are given to clients before proceeding. Research takes about 25 per cent of the time and entails detailed photography and taking precise measurements.

The Nickollses recently opened a museum of miniatures in a former gallery so that clients can see samples of their work. They also promote the work of other miniaturists so that visitors can take away affordable treasures.

A second book, *Making Character Dolls' Houses*, has just been completed, covering the detailed design and construction of five new projects including a water mill, a grand Georgian house, a forge, cider barn and the Swan Inn. Each has its own characters and the water mill "works" to demonstrate the milling process.

BRIEFINGS

Small companies are reducing their dependency on bank lending, according to a survey by the Institute of Directors. Fewer than half the companies with up to 20 employees had any loans. Nearly two-thirds of those that borrowed had fixed-term loans rather than overdrafts.

☐ A grant of 5.2 million ecus (£4.4 million) for the training of small and medium-sized enterprises in Wales has been approved by the European Commission. The training programme, including business plans and technology, runs until December 31.

☐ Small businesses whose owner-managers underwent management training performed four times better, according to a study by Cranfield University's school of management. It claimed that trained businessmen increased their businesses by 52 per cent in 1992-94, compared with 12 per cent where no training was undertaken.

☐ Half the 24,000 members of the Forum of Private Business have told a poll that they oppose the introduction of a minimum wage. Of the remainder, 40 per cent were in favour and 10 per cent undecided. Stan Mendham, the forum's chief executive, said: "Business owners are the best people to decide what is the right rate for the job. They must have that flexibility — otherwise, some lower-paid jobs will simply disappear."

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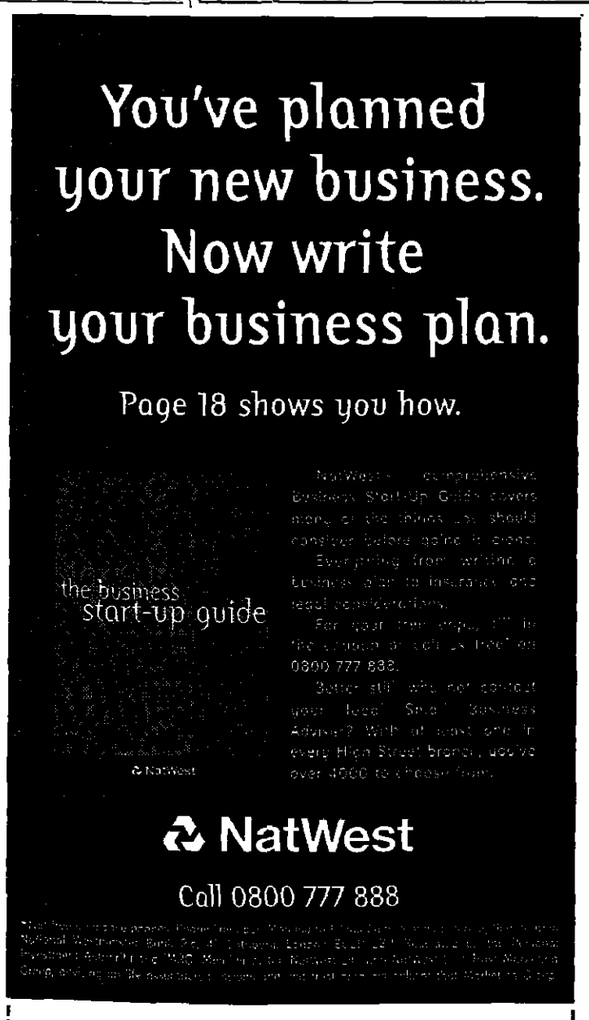
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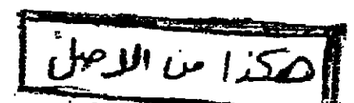
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■ VISUAL ART 1

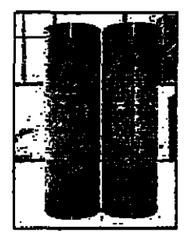
Delight in landscape and portrait: the National Trust's paintings at the National Gallery



■ VISUAL ART 2

Exercises in evolution on a grand scale: Ian McKeever's huge work goes on show in London

THE TIMES ARTS



■ VISUAL ART 3

Waiting to be decoded: Polish artist Miroslaw Balka brings his enigmatic messages to the Tate



■ TOMORROW

And they said sex comedy was finished? *An Experienced Woman* reviewed in Manchester

VISUAL ART: **Richard Cork** enjoys a closer look at paintings from stately homes; plus other recommended shows

Treasures in a new light



Jan Wyck's *A Dutch Mastiff ("Old Vertue") with Dunham Massey in the Background*, one of the NT paintings now at the National Gallery

Delighted though I am to come across exceptional paintings in National Trust houses, my pleasure is too often marred by irritation. Poor lighting can easily snuff out even the most powerful canvases, above all in rooms shuttered to protect watercolours and textiles. Peering into the shadows, and sometimes prevented from closer scrutiny by ropes intended to stop visitors treading on fragile carpets, I long for the greater access and clarity provided by a museum.

That is why the National Gallery's new exhibition, *In Trust for the Nation*, is such a tonic. Throughout the winter, while their homes are closed to the public, nearly 100 paintings can be seen afresh in the Sainsbury Wing. Their selector, Alastair Laing, has attempted to evoke the flavour of the settings they usually inhabit. But even in the first room, where a sequence of sumptuous full-length portraits is assembled, the show offers an experience quite different from the halls and long galleries where these effigies normally hang.

Many ancestral portraits are excruciatingly dull: however intriguing they may be as family history, their aesthetic interest is often negligible. Laing's choice concentrates on quality and variety alike.

Nothing could depart more outrageously from the norm than Van Dyck's portrait of the shameless popinjay Sir Robert Shirley. In 1622, when this flamboyant painting was probably produced, Sir Robert occupied the unlikely position of Persian Ambassador in Rome. Van Dyck saw him there, and doubtless relished the chance to portray Shirley decked out in turban, lavishly embroidered tunic and cloth-of-gold cloak. The casual viewer might mistake the entire outfit for fancy dress, worn only once at a ball. But a contemporary of Shirley's observed that "he much affected to appear in foreign vests, and as if his clothes were his limbs, accounted himself never ready till he had something of the Persian habit about him".

If nothing else in the portrait section matches Shirley for sheer peacock swagger, outstanding examples of Gainsborough, Reynolds and Romney round off the room. The *Reynolds, a portrait of the* Hon Theresa Robinson in neoclassical robes, turns out to be surprisingly poignant. She lays her left hand on her right arm, a gesture which prompted the sitter's husband to remark prophetically that she was "feeling her pulse". Within three years, she had died at the age of 30. Seen in this light, the whole image takes on an eerily prescient air. For the face is presented in profile, like a funerary portrait, and the autumnal landscape accentuates the sense of foreboding.

The next section, devoted to

> "The selection concentrates on quality and variety alike"

Conversation-pieces, breaks away from the single portraits' emphasis on dignity and poise. Philippe Mercier sounds an informal note in his sprightly painting from Belton House, where Viscount Tyrconnel gathers with his guests in the grounds. The casual mood is set by Mercier himself, shown sitting on the grass and sketching. But the figure who really makes the painting fizz is young Elizabeth Dayrell, propelling herself forward on a swing so enthusiastically that she almost collides with the elderly Tyrconnel. She also stares out at us, challengingly aware of her charms. The other young woman, confined to the 18th-century equivalent of a wheelchair, watches Elizabeth's gusto with a yearning look. But the overall atmosphere is festive. The man holding the swing's rope is clearly captivated by Elizabeth's *joie de vivre*.

By the time Hogarth painted *The Hervey Conversation-piece*, he could not resist introducing a knockabout element. While Baron Hervey and his friends cluster conviviality round a table festooned with a cornucopia of fruit, a solemn clergyman stands on a chair and raises his telescope to view a distant village. He is the Huguenot physicist John Theophilus Desaguliers, and his eagerness to scan the horizon makes the chair tilt sharply backwards. In another second, the oblivious clergyman will fall into the nearby water, and Hogarth even suggests that the accident is being hastened by a mischievous prod from Baron Ilchester's cane.

We are a long way, now, from the grandiloquence of the full-length portrait. Hogarth opened up other, broader possibilities, and they were seized by the anonymous artists who painted two complete sets of servants at Erdigg in Clwyd, North Wales. Although poorly preserved, the portraits of Thomas Rogers the carpenter and Edward Barnes the woodman offer a refreshing corrective to the proliferation of lords and ladies. They are depicted at work, Rogers with his wood and Barnes on the estate with his dog. Both men look up, as if to acknowledge the artist's presence. But the glances are only momentary: unlike their languorous employers, they have no time to pose and preen while daily tasks demand attention.

Working men are shown in the throes of far tougher and more dangerous toil in Henry Hawkins's remarkable painting of Penrhyn Slate Quarry. Once the largest in the world, the quarry is seen in this dark, awesome canvas as a place of burdensome labour. While the foreground is occupied by men in repose, most of the workers are seen further off as diminutive figures, scaling precipitous cliffs and perching unsteadily on hazardous cradles. To his credit, Hawkins makes little attempt to disguise the perils involved. But he strikes an unconvincing note by including a boy, who gestures to the heavens in a theatrical pose based on Reynolds's painting of the infant John the Baptist. Perhaps Hawkins or his patron felt the need to justify all the gruelling activity in the quarry by giving his painting a redemptive dimension.

This fascinating canvas is shown in a room devoted to Topographical Landscape, including major paintings by Bellotto, Bonington and Turner. But they are all overshadowed by the most delectable Cuyp I have ever seen: the *View of Dordrecht from Ascott*. Cuyp spans a surprising breadth as he moves from the houses, spires and moored ships at Dordrecht itself towards the open water. The right half of the painting gradually becomes more serene, luminous and free. Smaller boats hover on the channel's still surface, as though spellbound by the beneficent sun spreading across the sky. Cuyp's absolute mastery of light and reflections has a transfiguring power, showing how an everyday scene in his native city can be suffused with a sense of limpid, unfathomable enchantment.

Nothing in the room filled with Ideal Landscapes provides the same revelation. Claude's magisterial *Landscape with Jacob and Laban and his Daughters* looks far better here than it does at Petworth. But the exhibition's other high points lie in the gallery beyond. Here Del Sarto can be found at his most crisp and tense, making both the madonna and her child turn as if startled by an evil intruder. Rembrandt's portrait of Catrina Hooghsaet is more impressive still, a shadowy affair which threatens to engulf the sitter and her parrot, suspended on a nearby perch. Wealthy yet austere, Catrina clutches a handkerchief and eyes her pet. It could easily be a gloomy image, but Rembrandt ensures that his sitter's face emerges from her rigid Protestant head-dress with unexpected humour.

If Catrina is approaching the end of her life with seasoned stoicism, Prince Balthasar Carlos relishes the pleasures of boyhood. In Velázquez's superb portrait, from Ickworth, the six-year-old heir to the Spanish throne is shown as a hunter. The countryside beyond is surprisingly bleak and thunderous. Little Balthasar, though, stands his ground and grasps a rifle with precocious confidence. Two greyhounds stand to attention beside him, waiting for a command. But the boy, perhaps lulled by the sleepiness of his recumbent partridge-dog, seems in no hurry to shoot. Dead game is absent from this severe yet marvellously sensuous picture, where Velázquez invites us to concentrate on the watchful humanity of the prince's face. Only his pallor, so incongruous in this rural setting, hints at the delicacy that would cause his death a decade after this consummate portrait was completed.

● In Trust for the Nation, *at the National Gallery (0171-839 3321) until March 10*
● *Details of Times Readers' Evening, page 42*

AROUND THE GALLERIES

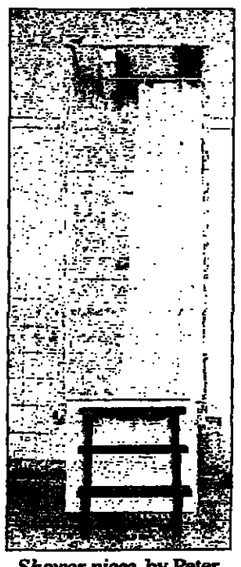
A MAJOR retrospective of paintings by the Irish artist Basil Blackshaw, in the recently opened Ormeau Baths in Belfast, makes an interesting but somewhat overcrowded show. It includes a large number of paintings dating back to the early 1950s. From pictures of the artist's beloved animals — racehorses, ponies, dogs — to portraits of friends, all reveal an easy interplay between painting and drawing. An approximate impasto of enthusiastically smeared paint suddenly takes on a sharpness of focus and detail.

There is very little angst here; the work is restrained and sociable. The decision to hold this exhibition is itself an indication of change in Northern Ireland: Blackshaw's unusually fresh and confident paintings have been largely overlooked for the past 25 years, because they bear so very little relation to the Troubles. *Ormeau Baths Gallery, 18a Ormeau Avenue, Belfast (01232 321402), until December 14*

☐ Even after walking through and around *Dawn*, an installation by Miroslaw Balka in the "Art Now" space at the Tate, it is difficult to tell whether this arrangement of basic, raw metal elements makes up a collection of individual pieces or an interdependent grouping. Are these theatrical "props", or "real" sculptures? Where is the image, and how can it be grasped? At the end farthest from the entrance is a wooden structure covered with a fine mesh or net which comes forward towards a point. To its right on the floor a couple of pots seem to provide a solitary reference to utility.

Balka is from Poland, and much writing about his new, apparently minimal, sculpture puts great biographical emphasis on the materials he uses. There is said to be domestic significance in his use of soap, ash, linoleum and felt, as well as steel. But instead of offering a visual display of graspable clues, Balka leaves the personal and historical elements obscured. He is using "pure" shapes and elements to provide an experience that is mentally and physically powerful.
Art Now, Tate Gallery, Millbank (0171 887 8000) until January 28

☐ Initially the gallery at Cubitt Studios seems empty. At one end of the room is what looks like the back of a stage set or part of a shop fitting, while halfway down a shower unit sits alone on a solitary plinth. Behind the "stage" a different picture emerges. A copy of Jos van der Pol's kitchen in Rotterdam presents an ordinary but nonetheless welcome sight. There is washing-up liquid, a pot, coffee, a gas heater for water, a rubbish bin, fridge, rice holders and utensils. There are little lights, a kitchen door, a circular table, an empty Bols bottle, a blue cake tin, overhead cupboards, and a sink unit. Detail gives it conviction; it is all plumbed and plugged in, and the artists who have studios upstairs can now make themselves a



Shower piece, by Peter Fillingham, Liesbeth Bik and Jos van der Pol

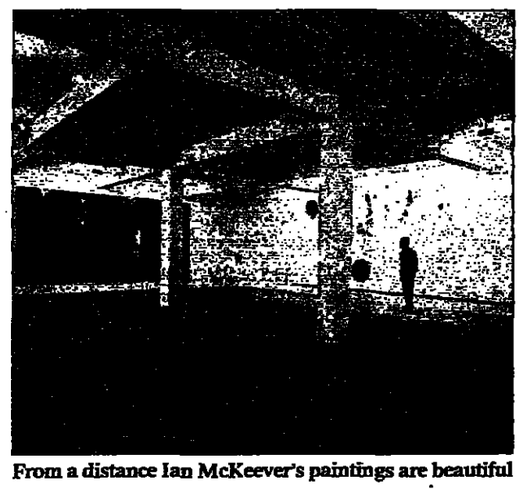
cup of Dutch coffee. The three collaborating artists — Peter Fillingham, Liesbeth Bik and Jos van der Pol — raise interesting questions about how far art has to go in order to be convincing.

In the next-door space a series of frail chalk drawings on blackboard by Tacita Dean shows outlines of men to-ing and fro-ing, pulling on ropes, in an attempt to prevent a disaster on the stormy seas. An illusion of danger surfaces out of a mist of chalky spray. The ship has already turned over in the next picture and been wrecked; the last of the story boards shows the temporary image of a rock emerging from a stormy, foaming sea. The ship is obviously soon to be lost, rubbed out, and replaced by the limitless black surface of an empty school blackboard after class.
Cubitt Gallery, 2-4 Caledonia Street, London N1 (0171 278 8226), until December 17

SACHA CRADDOCK

Charles Hall gets close to the canvas to fathom Ian McKeever's new works

Fresh layers of meaning



From a distance Ian McKeever's paintings are beautiful

Ian McKeever's work takes its structure and energy from the most basic processes of painting. It has to do with the manipulation of a fluid material, the creation and dissipation of space, the way each mark modifies and qualifies those on which it lies and those which will come after it. This is the kind of work that seduces you into closer physical inspection.

McKeever no longer paints over photographic images of the landscape, as he used to, and his exclusion of the photographs has eliminated all overt references to natural structures and rhythms. But the three huge paintings currently on show at Matt's Gallery in east London are still unmistakably organic.

This does not mean that there are echoes of natural forms here (though there are tendrils of translucent white here that certainly have something fungal about them). Rather, the paintings themselves look like objects which owe their form to an extended evolutionary history.

And that is exactly what they are. Every day's work becomes the starting point for the next. McKeever never scrapes away mistakes. As drips and splatters find their place in the composition evolving around them, the painting comes to seem like sensitive scar tissue. Its past matters.

McKeever likes to let his work mature in the studio, often for rather more than a year, actively resisting any inclination to get on with things. "I'll think: 'Hold on, I'm pushing this too fast, it's too even-tempered.' I'll put it aside, and come back to it in a different mood."

This is more than a question of wanting not to rush. It is an attempt to allow time into the process of painting, to allow personal experiences (a sunny day, an aggressive dog) to adhere somehow to the developing surface.

I say "somehow", because I am not sure that this is wholly successful. Since McKeever steers clear of conventionally expressionistic gestures (he says he finds them embarrassing), it is not at all obvious how specific experiences are communicated.

I certainly could not disentangle the mood of one day's painting from another. The long gestation process may in fact have more to do with personal ritual than with the demands of the painting itself. Then again, it has to be admitted that one of the black and white works seems lighter, less melancholic than the other, while the red canvas seems tougher, less evanescent than either.

All three canvases are, in theory, supposed to be regarded as one work. It is true that there is a continuity in method and proportion here, a sense that they have grown up together. But then that is true of all McKeever's works. What these new painting have in common is that, seen from a distance, they are all indisputably beautiful. Seen close, they are so startlingly matter-of-fact as to verge on actual grubbiness.

Take, for example, the large red painting, a horizontal composition built up (like the other paintings here) from four squarish panels. The first impression is of light glowing from the furthest depths of the canvas, as though glimpsed through trees or from inside a cave.

This light is obstructed and filtered by successive layers of paint, layed on in broad, flat bands, to be read as stains rather than brush-strokes, but the vertical bands on the very surface of the painting are darker and harder, even shiny, like bars. Seeing them as barriers intensifies the relief with which the eye pushes between them, penetrating veil after veil of colour to arrive at — well, at a patch of slightly dirty canvas.

This is an effect McKeever repeats time and again. Both his other two paintings here are purely black and white, the black veiled and obscured by the white, establishing an intense illusion of recession in space — like glimpsing a mountainside through broken mist. The black looks impossibly deep and soft — until you arrive at the canvas, and find it is the hardest, flattest surface on the canvas.

It is a tease, but a serious one. McKeever has often addressed the idea of the threshold — the exact point at which an image in a painting is unveiled or destroyed, the exact moment when a new layer of paint ceases simply to obliterate what is beneath it, and instead gives it a new and vital form, squeezing it into life.

Here he is playing on the threshold of the sublime: not denying the possibility of transcendence in painting, but insisting that it is achieved through the material world, through the labour of the painter.

● *Matt's Gallery, Copperfield Road, London E3 (0181-983 1771), until December 10*

East Bloomsbury

London has a £10 million new gallery for African and Asian art

BUILT on a former bomb site at the corner of Russell Square, at a total cost of £10 million, the Brunei Gallery is part of a six-storey teaching complex which now houses the Department of Art and Archaeology of London University's School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). It has space for both the small teaching collection and for temporary exhibitions.

Although SOAS was initially reluctant to reveal the identity of the donor, it now acknowledges that the building has been funded by a gift from the Sultan of Brunei, negotiated by Dr Nasser David Khalili, a prominent collector and former dealer, whose own collection of Ottoman art will be the first major loan show (expected to open in March next year).

The architects, Nicholas Hare Associates, have incorporated oriental features in the barrel vaulted ceilings and Japanese-style security gates on the inside, as well as creating an Islamic water garden on the roof. The gallery spaces, which combine bricks, American oak, white fair-faced concrete and Portuguese limestone, meet the high conservation and security requirements for government indemnification of loan shows from abroad — an indication of future ambitions. Rosemary Scott, Head of Museums at SOAS, confirmed that she is talking with curators at the Victoria and Albert Museum and the British Museum about future collaborative exhibitions.

For those who want to know more about SOAS, the present exhibition is a survey of its research work since its foundation in 1917, and of its collections. These include superb Chinese celadon vases and bowls from the Percival David Foundation which mirror examples of the Topkapi Serai in Istanbul.

Also from the Percival David Foundation come the white Ming Dynasty Chinese bowl encrusted in semi-precious stones by the Ottomans, and cobalt blue and white Ming vessels and bowls — all of a quality to rival the Chinese collection in the nearby British Museum. SOAS library has lent Islamic texts.

The opening of the Brunei Gallery and the prospect of the Museum of Mankind moving to the British Museum (now delayed by the slow exit of the British Library until the year 2000), combined with the existence of the undeservedly little-known Percival David Foundation in Gordon Square, established Bloomsbury as a centre of excellence for Islamic, Oriental and African Art.

London's collections have been static for too long, partitioned into separate buildings; this is just the sort of space that should loosen them up and use loans from the Victoria and Albert Museum and the British Museum, as well as from abroad, to create exhibitions of a range and depth not possible before in London.

ISABEL CARLISLE

● Islamic Art and Archaeology at SOAS: Arts and Collections 1917-1995 *is at the Brunei Gallery* (0171-637 2388) *until December 21*



■ CHOICE 1

Max Stafford-Clark directs Timberlake Wertenbaker's new *Break of Day*

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Royal Court



■ CHOICE 2

Rozhdestvensky conducts the CBSO in Schnittke's *Dead Souls* suite

VENUE: Symphony Hall Birmingham, tonight

THE TIMES ARTS



■ CHOICE 3

Cheek by Jowl's *The Duchess of Malfi* warms up for London

VENUE: This week at the Grand, Blackpool



■ DANCE

Some of the Royal Ballet's brightest stars bring lustre to a programme of four sparky pieces

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

BREAK OF DAY Opening night for Timberlake Wertenbaker's play in which Out of Joint's *Three Sisters* company looks at women's circumstances a century on from Chekhov. Max Stafford-Clark directs a fine cast with songs by Jeremy Sams. *Three Sisters* can be seen in promenade at Rossway Park, Berkhamsted during this run.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm.

BASEBALL Moses Pendleton's new show for his company Momix developed out of a short dance commissioned for a new stadium, and is said to unleash "a cornucopia of baseball, legend and nostalgia". It is set to a mixture of play-by-play chatter, rock and classical music, so while Momix's entertaining if surreal work is not to everyone's taste, it just might pique your interest.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-713 6000). Tonight-Dec 9, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm.

THE CABINET OF DOKTOR CALIGARI Last week of performance for this stage version of the German silent classic. Good sets, unearthly music, and a haunting performance by John Ramm as Matthew Kelly's sleepwalking killer.
Lyric, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM Gennadi Rozhdestvensky conducts the **City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra** for tonight's British premiere of his compatriot and friend Alfred Schnittke's *Dead Souls* suite. The piece is framed by Haydn and Tchaikovsky.
Symphony Hall, (0121-212 3333). Tonight and Wed, 7.30pm.

BRIGHTON Sue Pomeroy's excellent Good Company offers another chance to catch the magic of **Pride and Prejudice**. With Jean Boht, Jonathan Newth, Lucy Akhurst and George Asprey.
Theatre Royal, New Road (01273-328 488). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs, 2.30pm and Sat, 4pm.

While you are out and about in Brighton, don't miss the annual jewellery show at the **Hugo Barclay Gallery**. All the jewellers are chosen for their individuality, innovation and technical skill, in a wide range of materials and prices.
Hugo Barclay, 7 East Street (01273-321 694). Until Dec 24.

BLACKPOOL: Anastasia Hille takes the title role in Cheek by Jowl's latest, **The Duchess of Malfi**. Declan Donnellan directs Webster's tragedy of incest, murder and the borderlands of the mind; designs by Nick Ormerod. Last stop before a brief West End run.
Grand, Church Street (01253 28372). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; Sat, 2.30pm.

EDINBURGH: Arthur Kopit's comic blast at Hollywood's frenetic life and work-style, **The Road to Nirvana** gets its British premiere. Justin Greene directs. Not for children or the easily offended.
Traverse, Cambridge Street (0131-228 1404). Tue-Sun, 8pm; until Dec 17.

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum, Westminster Kings and the Medieval Palace of Westminster (0171-636 1555) ... **Hayward**: Art and Power: Europe under the dictators 1930-1945 (071-928 3144) ... **National Portrait Gallery**: Richard and Maria Cosway (0171-306 0055) ... **Royal Academy**: David Hockney Drawing Retrospective (0171-439 7438) ... **Serpentine**: William Turnbull: sculpture and paintings (0171-723 9072) ... **Tate**: Dynasties: Paintings in Tudor and Jacobean England (0171-887 8000) ... **V & A**: Jain Art from India (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London
■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

□ **THE COUNTRY GIRL**: Strong and subtle performance by Corin Redgrave in *Clifford Odets's drama of love, drink and marital protection*. Kika Markham plays the supportive wife.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

□ **DEAD FUNNY**: Belinda Lang, Kevin McNally and Sam Kelly in Terry Johnson's sharply funny play about comics and some of their fans.
Savoy, *The Strand*, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 5pm.

□ **HYSTERIA**: Henry Goodman plays Freud, with Tim Potter as Salvador Dali, in *Terry Johnson's surreal, double award-winner*; Phyllida Lloyd directs.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Now previewing, 7.30pm; opens Nov 30, 7pm.

◪ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS**: Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-knowing Inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engel as the pillars of society.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5pm.

◪ **KING LEAR**: Warren Mitchell in Jude Kelly's often unsatisfying production, shot through with flashes of brilliance. Final week.
Hackney Empire, Mare Street (0181-985 2424/0171-420 0000). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, Wed, 2pm, Sun, 6pm.

□ **KNIVES IN HENS**: Philip Howard's Traverse Theatre production of new *David Harrower play: set in Scotland's distant past, "a powerful story of liberation through forbidden love"*.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (*0181-743 3388*). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Nov 30, 7pm.

◪ **MACK AND MABEL**: Jerry Herman's musical set in early Hollywood. Fine songs, though a troublesome book. Starring Howard McGillin and a delightful Caroline O'Connor.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **THE SHAKESPEARE REVUE**: A witty evening of song, dance and sketches to do with William S. Assembled by Christopher Luscombe and Malcolm McKee.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 5.30pm.

◪ **THREE TALL WOMEN**: Maggie Smith, Sara Kestelman and Samantha Bond in Edward Albee's fascinating play about his adoptive mother.
Wyndhams, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Tue-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ ***WILD OATS***: Anton Lesser as Rover, the touring actor whose talk is a patchwork of the roles he has played. Highly enjoyable revival of John O'Keefe's 1791 farce.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Thurs, 7.30pm; mat Wed, 2.15pm.

□ **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS**: Jeremy Sinden plays Toad in the now *annual return of the National Theatre production*; Jeremy Sams directs.
Old Vic, Waterloo Rd, SE1 (0171-928 6655). Now previewing, 7.30pm; opens tomorrow, 7pm.

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Buddy**: Strand (0171-930 8800) ... ◪ **Communicating Doors**: Gielgud (0171-494 5530) ... □ **Dead Guilty**: Apollo (0171-494 5070) ... □ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Albery (0171-369 1730) ... ◪ **Indian Ink**: Aldwych (0171-416 6003) ... ◪ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) ... ◪ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

L'AVVENTURA (PG): Monica Vitti lights up the screen as the forlorn, questing heroine of Antonioni's 1960 classic. A welcome revival.
Screen/Hill ◪ (0171-435 3366)

THE BASKETBALL DIARIES (18): *Leonardo DiCaprio descends into heroin's hell*. Scott Kalvert directs unedifying version of Jim Carroll's book.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

CARLOTA JOAQUINA, PRINCESS OF BRAZIL (15): Gauche and eccentric historical romp about the rulers of 18th-century Brazil. Director, Carla Camurati.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891)

A FISTFUL OF FINGERS (15): Juvenile Western spoof filmed in Somerset; it should have lasted 20 minutes. Director, Edgar Wright.
Prince Charles (0171-437 8181)

◆ **GOLDENEYE** (12): Pierce Brosnan twinkles as the new James Bond. A rip-roaring thriller with a sense of humour; with Sean Bean, Izabella Scorupco, Famke Janssen. Director, Martin Campbell.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) ***Notting Hill Coronet*** ◪ *(0171-727 6705)* **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501)

Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

SHANGHAI TRIAD (15): Enjoyably opulent gangster saga from Chinese director Zhang Yimou. With Gong Li.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722)

CURRENT

◆ **CLUELESS** (12): Frivolous fun of the life and empty minds of Beverly Hills teenagers.
MGMs: Fulham Road ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **CRIMSON TIDE** (15): Antique heroics in a nuclear submarine, with Gene Hackman and Denzel Washington. Director, Tony Scott.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

LAND AND FREEDOM (15): Ken Loach's powerful Spanish Civil War drama, with Ian Hart, Rosana Pastor.

Curzon Phoenix (0171-369 1721) **Odeons: Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772)

◆ **TO DIE FOR** (15): Delicious social satire about a television weather girl's murderous lust for glory. Gus Van Sant directs *Nicole Kidman and Matt Dillon*.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **TO WONG FOO THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, *JULIE NEWMAR*** (PG): New York drag queens charm the mid-West. Cosy comedy drama, with Patrick Swayze, Wesley Snipes and John Leguizamo. Director, Beeban Kidron.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGM Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ ***UNDER SIEGE 2*** (18): *Die Hard on a train*, with Steven Seagal, Eric Bogosian, and much tedious action.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ ***A WALK IN THE CLOUDS*** (PG): Vacuous 1940s romance with Keanu Reeves as a returning soldier who finds a new life in California's vineyards. Director, Alfonso Arau.
MGM Trocadero ◪ *(0171-434 0031)* **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

One brilliant move after another

DANCE

Apollo programme
Covent Garden

One can only speculate about how Zoltan Solymosi would have fared as Apollo, since his recent hasty departure from the Royal Ballet deprived us of his debut performance on Thursday. Instead we got Jonathan Cope as a last-minute replacement. But this was no occasion for regret, since the remarkable Cope looked completely at home with the role despite not having danced it in seven years and having less than a week to prepare for it.

Cope has a magnificent physique for *Apollo* — impressively tall and sculpted to classical statue-like proportions — but you need more than that for Balanchine. The choreographer's 1928 work for Diaghilev's Ballets Russes (his historic first collaboration with Igor Stravinsky) marks the birth of neo-classicism, a style which demands that purity of form be coupled with a total belief in the power of movement alone to carry the artistic load. From the moment of his awkward birth and confused first steps, Cope's young Apollo spoke with an eloquent grandeur. His classical technique, always impeccable, served the choreography in long, ultra-clean lines while the warmth of his physical presence made sense of the ballet's underlying passion, especially in his exciting pas de deux with Terpsichore.

The three Muses of Poetry, Mime and Dance (Deborah Bull, Belinda Hatley and Darcey Bussell) all shone brightly in their individual efforts to educate the artistic soul of the young god. The moments when the four of them danced together, balanced in Balanchine's sophisticated and symmetrical formations, were dazzling in their clarity. Bussell's Terpsichore was particularly outstanding: through the exhilarating richness and amplitude of her dancing she seemed to embody an eternal ideal. The entire work, meticulously staged by Patricia Neary, was a polished tribute to Balanchine's early genius.

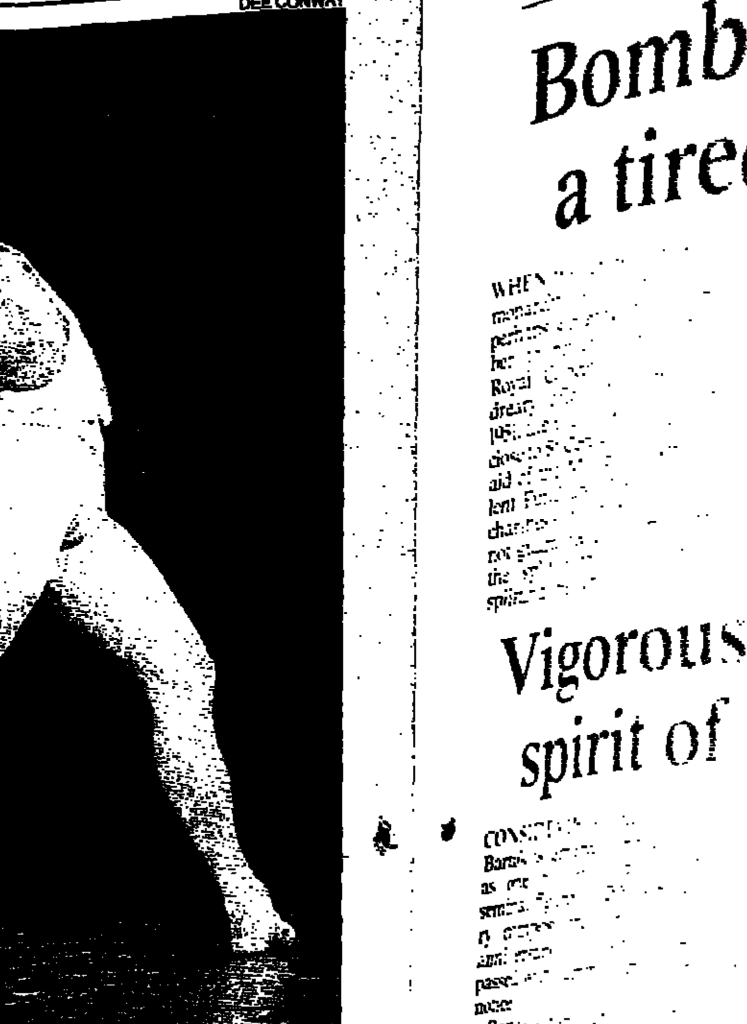
Kenneth MacMillan's *Side Show*, also to Stravinsky, was never intended for the repertoire, having been created as a humorous party piece for Rudolf Nureyev and Lynn Seymour more than 20 years ago. So it was a surprise to discover that there is so much choreography in it, plenty of virtuoso steps and jolly circus tricks. A ridiculously moustachioed Irek Mukhamedov, as the self-adoring strongman, relished his comic fumbles along with the bravura displays, while Miyako Yoshida proved the diversity of her talents — which extended to cartwheeling across the stage.

An abrupt change of gear brought us straight into *Duo Concertant* without an interval, but Viviana Durante and Bruce Sansom managed to put us in the mood for more Balanchine, and yet more Stravinsky. Their playful response to the music being made by Yuri Torchinsky's violin and Philip Gammon's piano seemed like a natural outpouring of dance, uncorrupted by any attempt to give it a context Balanchine never intended. They simply drew breath from Stravinsky's rhythms and floated along his melting phrases and sad farewells.

The programme ended with one of the biggest Royal Ballet hits in many a year, Ashley Page's *Fearful Symmetries* (set to the unstoppable momentum of John Adams's brilliant minimalist score). Repeated exposure to this work only confirms first impressions: it is a thrilling and classy piece of dance-making that brings out a ferocious grace in everyone — especially Mukhamedov — who dances it.

DEBRA CRAINE

DEE CONWAY



Exciting pas de deux: Darcey Bussell and Jonathan Cope in *Apollo*

Soon into her stride

POP

Aimee Mann
Forum, NW6

Seemingly composed entirely of straight lines and sharp angles, the American singer-guitarist Aimee Mann backs into the spotlight like a show-off child suddenly paralysed by stage fright: she ducks and dives as if with embarrassment, strikes out in all directions with her elbows and knees, seems almost capable of disappearing behind her instrument. The voice, though, is big and sure right from the start and on this, the closing night of a short British tour, more urgent than when captured on record. Meanwhile her body language — increasingly loose and limber — suggests the nerves melt quickly away before the highly vocal support of a capacity audience.

She is now 30, with several false starts to her career already behind her, so it is unsurprising that Mann's persona, as revealed within her clever, acute songs, is somewhat cynical and defensive. This particular quality is what lifts her above the ranks of her many female peers, though. Matched with a facility for sometimes stunning lyrical originality, it steers her steadily away from the mawkish or hackneyed and results in some fine material. Her latest Geffen album, *I'm With Stupid*, has been badly overlooked by critics and record buyers alike.

As with a previous LP, *Whatever*, its tracks divide roughly into two camps — the more muscular rockers, slightly old-fashioned sounding here despite being propelled by an excellent four-piece band, and those quieter numbers, performed in near-unplugged style, when voice and words are left gloriously exposed. The former are enjoyable enough, but it is the latter at which Mann excels: two recent titles, *You Could Make A Killing* and *Amateur*, are particularly strong, but perhaps her finest moment, live or on record, comes with an older song, *4th of July*.

Fans of the pale-as-water star love it all, as witnessed by the rush of encores. Eventually, in response to a request, she resorts to singing a hit by her former band 'Til Tuesday, then confesses she only knows three more tunes, one of them only half-written. "Sing them all," she is implored. Being a good sport, as well as an excellent talent, Mann does as she is bidden.

ALAN JACKSON

Sax with a smile

JAZZ

Michael Hashim
Pizza Express, W1

Saxophonist Michael Hashim is a great communicator — so much so that in 1992 he was called upon to spearhead the first tour of China by United States jazz artists for more than 60 years. On that occasion, Congress sent him a letter congratulating him on *improving relations between America* and the People's Republic.

Whether he's conjuring up the spirit of the great Ellingtonian saxophonist *Johnny Hodges* in a sophisticated blues, emulating the suave elegance of Benny Carter, or applying his inexhaustible improvisatory gift to a Charlie Parker classic, Hashim makes it his first priority to ensure that his audience is with him every step of the way. In the London performance of his current UK tour he enlists touches of vaudeville ("What do you get if you push a piano down a mineshaft? A flat minor"), learning lightly imparted, general bonhomie and boundless enthusiasm in his cause: mining the alto and soprano jazz repertoire in as accessible a manner as possible.

Backed by a discreet but gutsy UK rhythm section — pianist Steve Melling, bassist Dave Green and drummer Dave Ohm — Hashim moved easily between the creamy, pure-toned alto smoothness of Carter's *When Lights Are Low* and his swooningly lovely ballad *People Time*, and a cascading, breathless inventiveness on soprano reminiscent not only of Hodges but of the late saxophonist's most important teacher, Sidney Bechet.

Reverential re-creation, however, is not Hashim's game; his is a highly individual approach, almost impishly idiosyncratic at times. Thus he is as likely to interject a lip-smacking sound or a fruity burp into a solo as he is to *play it straight*, and he rarely resists the temptation to insert an apposite musical quotation into apparently inhospitable chord sequences — *Stormy Weather* into Jerome Kern's *Look for the Silver Lining*, for instance, or *Stranger in Paradise* into Paul Gonsalves's *Hard Groove*.

Overall, though, Hashim is a uniquely gifted proselytiser, employing formidable technical gifts and using his encyclopaedic knowledge of the lyrics of songs to give his interpretations emotional resonance and depth.

CHRIS PARKER

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

LARGE SOVIET Oil Paintings for sale. **Roy Miles Gallery**, 29 Bruton Street, W1 0171-495 4747

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Tomor 7.30 BARBER OF SEVILLE

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby info. *Tickets available on the day* **The Royal Opera** Ton't, Fri 7.00 **MATHIS DER MALER** Tomor, Sat (Last Night) 7.30 **FEDORA** Mon 7.30 (FIRST NIGHT) **AIDA** **The Royal Ballet** Thur 7.30 Balanchine's **APOLLO**/MacMillan's **SIDE SHOW**/Balanchine's **DUO CONCERTANT**/Page's **FEARFUL SYMMETRIES**

THEATRES

ADELPHI "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE" Wall St Journal SUNSET BOULEVARD **Winner of 7 Tony Awards including** BEST MUSICAL Starring **ELAINE PAIGE** *24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS* CALL 0171 344 0055 (bkg fee) GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee) No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers Recorded information 0171 379 8884 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

ALBERY BO 0171 369 1730 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) *Grp 0171 413 3311* "FIVE STAR SHOW ...IRRESISTIBLE" D.Exp FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE SIXTH STOMPING YEAR Mon-Thu 8pm Fri & Sat 6 & 8.45 **LAST 7 WEEKS** Fri & Sat 6pm perf.Top 4 prices 2 for 1

ALDWYCH cc 0171 416 6003 0171 420 0000 (no fee) Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 **NIAMH CUSACK MARGARET TYZACK PAUL BHATTACHARJEE** INDIAN INK **"TOM STOPPARD'S TRIUMPH - A BEAUTIFUL AND FUNNY FIREBALL OF A PLAY TO ILLUMINATE THE WEST END"** Today. Directed by **PETER WOOD** **LAST 6 WEEKS ENDS JAN 6**

AMBASSADORS 836 6111/420 0100/344 4444 From 11 Dec - 7 weeks only TRAINSPOTTING awardwinning play from Irvine Welsh's novel "Feverishly Funny" Guardian *Mon-Fri at 8 Sat 5 & 8.30 Wed Mat at 5*

AMBASSADORS 0171 836 6111/ 420 0100 (no bkg fee) **"NEW PLAY OF THE YEAR"** D.Mail BURNING BLUE Mon-Sat 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 **LAST WEEK** Ends Saturday

APOLLO 494 5060/344 4444/420 0000 **HAYLEY MILLS** **"Magnificent"** F T **JENNY SEAGROVE** **"Impeccable"** Times DEAD GUILTY **'Richard Harris' new play is** THE PERFECT THRILLER' S Times Mon-Fri 8, Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 & 8.15

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321 **Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of** STARLIGHT EXPRESS **"A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT"** Daily Mail White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £12.50

BLOOMSBURY THEATRE B/O C C 0171 388 8822 From Dec 18 Mon-Fri 11.30 & 3.00 W/C Dec 25 Tue-Sat 11.30 & 3.00 **SOOTY AT CHRISTMAS**

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL 28 Nov - 2 Dec Mark Rylance Jane Horrocks **MACBETH** BOOK ON 01243 781312

CAMBRIDGE BO & cc 0171 494 5054 cc (no bkg fee) 312 1992/ 344 4444 Grps 413 3321/ 312 1970/ 494 5454 FAME THE MUSICAL **"FAME IS A FEEL-GOOD TRIUMPH"** Mail On Sunday **"BREATHTAKING"** Independent Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

COMEDY 0171 369 1731 inc cc no bkg fee cc 0171 344 4444 no bkg fee HAROLD PINTER "brilliant comedy performance" S Tel THE HOTHOUSE by Harold Pinter "David Jones's fine production" F T "lethally funny" Guardian **"A HOOT AND A SENSATION...DON'T MISS"** Obs Eves 7.45 Mats Thur 3.00 & Sat 4.00 **LAST WEEK MUST END SAT**

COMEDY BO & cc 0171 369 1731 cc 0171 420 0000 (no bkg fee) ZOE WANAMAKER in THE GLASS MENAGERIE by **TENNESSEE WILLIAMS** Directed by **Sam Mendes** FROM 7 DEC BOOK NOW

CRITERION 369 1747 cc (no bkg fee) 0171 344 4444 **DANIEL MASSEY** **MICHAEL PENNINGTON** **'two compelling leading performances...a tremendous play, tremendously performed'** D Tel TAKING SIDES **"a masterpiece"** Mail On Sunday by Ronald Harwood **"scrupulously well-directed by Harold Pinter"** Observer Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 **LAST 2 WEEKS MUST END 9 DEC**

DOMINION Ticketlines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200 GREASE Starring **SHANE RICHIE** and **SAMANTHA JANUS** **"Fast, furious & fun, fun, fun."** Daily Mirror Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm **Ton't, Tomor, Thur the role of Danny will be played by Richard Calkin** **TICKETS AVAILABLE - APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE THERE WILL BE NO**

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL SS cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/312 8000 MISS SAIGON **"THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME"** **NOW IN ITS 7TH SENSATIONAL YEAR!** Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm **Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS** **0171 494 5060 (BKG FEE)**

DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) 0171-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30 **"A SAUCY COMEDY"** E. Std **NOW IN ITS 5th YEAR** DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER ***"Gloriously Outrageous"*** T.Out

DUKE OF YORK'S 0171 836 5122/9837 cc 420 0000/344 4444 (24 hrs no fee) **ROYAL COURT CLASSICS** Henry Goodman Aisling O'Sullivan Fred Pearson Tim Potter HYSTERIA by Terry Johnson ***BEST COMEDY*** **OLIVIER AWARD** "brilliantly original and entertaining" S.Times Press Night Thurs at 7pm *FOR 10 WEEKS ONLY* Eves 7.30pm Mats Sat 3pm

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/0171 312 8033 **DAVID BURKE** **ANDREW HAVILL** **Susan Hill's** THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt **"A real thrill of horror"** S Times **NOW IN ITS 7TH YEAR** Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tues 3pm Sat 4pm

FORTUNE 0171 836 2238 From 13 Dec, A Magical Xmas Show **THE ENCHANTED TOYSHOP** 'A real treat for 3-9 year olds' Gdn

HAYMARKET 930 8800 cc 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) THE PETER HALL COMPANY **ALAN BATES** **GEMMA JONES** superb Times marvellous Gdn THE MASTER BUILDER 'Peter Hall's fine new staging' D Tel 'A classic, rebuilt by a master' Today **FOR 6 WEEKS ONLY** Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Wed, Sat 3pm

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/ 0171 312 1990 (no bkg fee) **WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS** **The Royal National Theatre production** JB Priestley's AN INSPECTOR CALLS **"THRILLING...MUST BE SEEN"** D.Mail **"ONE OF THE MOST *INTOXICATING, THEATRICALLY* IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCES OF THE 1990s"** E.S **"TWO HOURS OF ENTHRALLING, VISUALLY STUNNING DRAMA"** D Tel **FINAL LONDON SEASON** Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15, Wed mat 2.30

GIELGUD Shaftesbury Ave inc cc 0171 494 5530 (no bkg fee) cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Groups 0171 494 5454 JULIA McKENZIE COMMUNICATING DOORS by **ALAN AYCKBOURN** "A MELODRAMATIC COMEDY THRILLER WONDERFULLY FUNNY AND GENUINELY SCARY" D Tel "with the audience in turn ROARING WITH LAUGHTER AND LEAPING FORWARD IN FRIGHT" Independent Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/930 6123 **ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL** THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Directed by HAROLD PRINCE **NOW BKG TO 28 SEPT 96** Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 Apply to Box Office daily for returns

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) 420 0000 Grps 0171 312 8000 **JIM DALE** RETURNS TO THE WEST END **"A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT"** Daily Mail OLIVER! **"LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE"** S Times Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 **SOME GOOD SEATS AVAIL NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS**

LYRIC Shafts Ave BO/cc 0171 494 5045 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) **LEO McKERN** "a comic tour de force" D Tel **NICHOLA McAULIFFE** "born to play Maggie" Today **GRAHAM TURNER** "gloriously funny" D.Mail HOBSON'S CHOICE by Harold Brighouse Directed by Frank Hauser **"a magnificent hit"** *D.Tel* Eves 7.30 Mat Sat 3.00 **EXTENDED TO 3 FEB**

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252 Grps 0171 620 0741,24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000 **OLIVIER** Ton't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 **VOLPONE** Ben Jonson **LYTTELTON** Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.15 & 7.30 **WILD OATS** John O'Keeffe **COTTESLOE** Ton't 7.00, Tomor 1.00 & 7.00 **RICHARD II** William Shakespeare

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3311/930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL CATS Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT Bars open at 6.45 **LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.**

OLD VIC 0171 928 6655/312 8034 **The Royal National Theatre's** THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS Classic Christmas Entertainment For Adults and Children alike **SOME GOOD SEATS STILL AVAILABLE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** Tonight at 7.30pm

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444 Grps 0171 413 3311 **THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL** LES MISERABLES **NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR** Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee) **BEST MUSICAL** **ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS** **WILLY RUSSELL'S** BLOOD BROTHERS **STEPHANIE LAWRENCE** **STEFAN DENNIS CARL WAYNE** **...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval"** D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734 cc 24hrs 344 4444, Grps 312 1970/413 3321 *WINNER!* **BEST MUSICAL** **Evening Standard Award '95** **"ONE OF THE BEST MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS LONDON HAS SEEN FOR YEARS"** D.Express **"JERRY HERMAN'S WONDERFUL BURST OF MUSICAL FIREWORKS"** D.Mail MACK & MABEL Mon-Sat at 7.45, Mats Wed & Sat at 3.00

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401 /0171 420 0000/0171 344 4444 **AN ALL STAR CAST IN RAY COONEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT** FUNNY MONEY **"LAUGHS GALORE...A WINNER"** D. Exp **"Better than Feydeau...priceless"** D Tel **"It deserves to Run For Your Wife, oops, run & run"** D Mail Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Thu 3.00, Sat 5.00 **THEATRE RESTAURANT 0171 930 9445**

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) First Call 420 0100 / 0171 344 4444 Groups 930 6123 **BEST MUSICAL** **Laurence Olivier Awards 93** **'YOU'D BE CRAZY TO MISS IT'** D.Mail CRAZY FOR YOU **"IS A GREAT, GLORIOUS, GLAMOROUS GOLDMINE OF A SHOW"** S Times *Eves 7.45, Mats Thu & Sat 3.00* **GOOD SEATS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK**

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5972/420 0232/344 4444/416 6052 Grps 0171 420 0200/413 3321 TOMMY STEELE WHAT A SHOW **'Tommy's Show packs Flash, Bang, Wallop' Eve Standard** Evgs Mon-Sat 8pm, Mats Wed 3pm Sat 5pm **For a Limited Season**

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400 First Call 420 0100 (24hr Bkg fee) 344 4444 Groups 430 0300 Cameron Mackintosh presents MARTIN GUERRE A New Musical by BOUBLIL & SCHONBERG **FROM 22 MAY 1996**

QUEENS BO/CC (£1 bkg fee) 0171 494 5040/344 4444 *Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri & Sat 8.45pm &* Sat mat 6pm LILY SAVAGE PRISONER CELL-BLOCK H **THE MUSICAL** **"Hilarious"** F T **"A Huge Hit -** ***A Christmas Smash*** **"** Obs **7 WEEKS ONLY!** Stalls & D.C. £12.50-£24.00, Upper Circle £8.50

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (0171 638 8891) **For full details dial from your fax machine, 0336 418071** calls cost, per min 39p cheap rate, 49p at all other times **BARBICAN A CHRISTMAS CAROL** previews from 1 Dec **THE PIT. CAIN** Tomor 7.15 **STRATFORD** (01789 295623) **RST. JULIUS CAESAR** Ton't 7.30 **SWAN THE CHERRY ORCHARD** Ton't 7.30 **TOP. THE PHOENICIAN WOMEN** Today 1.30

SAVOY THEATRE 0171 836 8888 cc 420 0000 grps 312 1970 No bkg fee **BELINDA LANG** **KEVIN McNALLY** in Terry Johnson's award winning comedy DEAD FUNNY **"Blissfully Witty and Wicked"** Eve Stand Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm Sat mat 5pm & Wed mat 2.30pm

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 *CC 0171 344 4444 Until 16 Dec* EDDIE IZZARD ENTIRE RUN SOLD OUT Queue daily for returns Tues - Sat 8pm & Sun 7.30pm

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 0171 497 9977 (bkg fee) Groups 0171 312 1994 (no bkg fee) Eves 8. Tues 2.45, Sat 5 & 8 44th Year of Agatha Christie's **THE MOUSETRAP**

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THE TIMES

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■ OPERA

Verdi in the Bull Ring: *Falstaff* is staged at Birmingham's unlikeliest venue



■ FESTIVAL

Huddersfield's new-music fans pay tribute to the avant-garde mastery of Luigi Nono

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ CONCERTS 1

Andrew Davis presides over a sedate Royal Concert, only partly enlivened by a new Maw



■ CONCERTS 2

... but at the Barbican a celebration of Bartók brings out the best in Solti

MUSIC AND OPERA: City of Birmingham Touring Opera re-enters the ring with Verdi in miniature; plus concerts

Bombast dominates a tired royal affair

BBC SO/Davis
Festival Hall

WHEN the future role of the monarchy is finally settled, perhaps someone will remember to revamp the annual Royal Concert, this year a dreary affair. First held in 1951, the event is always given close to St Cecilia's Day and in aid of the Musicians Benevolent Fund and other musical charities — but good causes do not guarantee great art: from the split notes in the ear-splitting fanfare to the national anthem played by musicians of the Royal Military School of Music, it was clear that Thursday's concert was to be one of "those" evenings.

With nasty modern music out of the question, even the new work had to be tame. Nicholas Maw's Variations for Orchestra fitted the bill. But the premiere was a disappointment, showing the composer at his most accomplished but with nothing fresh to say. The piece is substantial, about 25 minutes long and structured with nine variations and a passacaglia based on a theme written in the early 1970s for the first of Maw's *Life Studies*, but the variety of textures he uses finds no matching variety of emotions.

Even the faster, more pungent variations are dominated by muted, autumnal colours — the sometimes lush orchestration is for large, conventional forces — and Maw seems not to have explored the full range of possibilities that variation form offers. Only the funereal C minor of the final section achieves eloquence, and provides the tribute to Purcell, a master of the passacaglia, intended in this BBC commission for the tercentenary year. Andrew Davis brought his trademark enthusiasm and energy to the proceedings, but little rubbed off on the BBC Symphony Orchestra's playing.

The first half of this all-British programme was completed by Walton's breezy *Portsmouth Point* overture and Elgar's *In the South*, which came across with the appropriate mixture of sunny exuberance and introspection. Davis is, of course, a natural Elgarian, and drew flexible playing from his orchestra. He plainly enjoyed putting the players through their paces in *Britten's Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, a good show-off piece but an ironic choice for an older-than-average audience and when the guest of honour was not one of the younger royals but the Duke of Kent.

Britten's ingenious use of a Purcell theme may have been the excuse for including the work this year, but Purcell himself was well represented in the *Funeral Sentences* and three anthems sung by the King's College Choir under Stephen Cleobury. Though in the Festival Hall one missed the enhancing effect that the Cambridge acoustics have on Purcell's counterpoint, these were beautifully shaded performances that provided welcome respite from the bombast around.

JOHN ALLISON

Vigorous toast to spirit of Bartók

LSO/Solti
Barbican

CONSIDERING that Bela Bartók is generally regarded as one of the handful of seminal figures of 20th-century composition, the fiftieth anniversary of his death has passed with surprisingly little notice.

Bartók's compatriot, Georg Solti, is doing his bit, however, in three concerts at the Barbican. The first, on Sunday night, with the London Symphony Orchestra, offered the high-spirited Dance Suite and two masterly scores from the Thirties: the Violin Concerto No 2, with Kyung-Wha Chung the soloist, and the Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta.

Even in his eighties, Solti has lost none of the snap, none of the nervous, febrile animation that has always characterised his music-making. With the orchestra responding to every muscular spasm, every flick of the wrist, the kinetic energy released throughout all three works was truly invigorating. Not only the Dance Suite but also the agitated sections of the other scores boasted rhythms of a crispness that left nothing to be desired.

Solti's accompaniment in the concerto was similarly alive to the work's shifting impulses: now striding with a powerful tread across swathes of cross-rhythms, now yielding to the more genial spirit of a lyrical interlude. If Solti has the devastating tenacity of a bird of prey, Kyung-Wha Chung resembles a tigress. Tense in posture, as though ready to pounce on any unsuspecting syncopation, she can summon a ferocity equal to anything the composer demands. Elsewhere, she can exploit her feline grace to bring out the tenderness in a singing line. All in all, a virtuoso, mesmerising performance.

In general, Solti and Bartók seem made for each other. Solti's interpretations are distinguished not only by their energy and rhythmic acuity, but also by an almost obsessive attention to textual detail. In the second movement of the concerto, for example, he brought out the vaguely unsettling scrubbing low down on cellos and basses, pointing up the contrast moments later with the crystalline plops of harp and celesta.

This spotlighting of detail can become a bad habit, though. The adagio of the Music for Strings is one of Bartók's evocative "night music" movements, and the last thing one wants in this atmospheric nocturnal scene is the glare of a flashlight. From the opening xylophone note (too loud and penetrating for a mezzoforte) to the attention-seeking accents and intrusive glissandi on strings, the adagio had none of the otherworldly quality that Bartók surely had in mind.

This lapse aside, the Solti laser brought welcome illumination to a score that for the most part can only benefit from eagle-eyed scrutiny.

BARRY MILLINGTON



Keith Latham as Falstaff, the affable figure at the centre of Graham Vick's touring production of *Falstaff*: a carnival of costume and movement

The fat knight trimmed

Falstaff
Bull Ring, Birmingham

Verdi's *Falstaff* was the opera which launched City of Birmingham Touring Opera eight years ago, and it is back to cheer the bleak midwinter with its carnival of costume and tumbling movement. Vibrant scarlets burn out from Bardolph's nose, lunar blue wraps the stage in an all-pervading enchantment, and Falstaff sports yellow stockings that would be the envy of Malvolio himself.

Yet Graham Vick's production is, as Berlioz might have said, a caprice written with the point of a needle. With its cast of ten, its chamber-musical orchestration for just 15 players by Jonathan Dove, and its backpacking single set, it defined CBTO's style and set a precedent for many a small company riding out the 1980s on the shortest of shoestrings.

While awaiting its new home in Birmingham, the CBTO has had some pretty challenging spaces in which to work over the years. That, of course, is part of its *raison d'être*. It is accustomed to making virtue out of necessity by going — quite literally — out of its way to reach audiences who may be unlikely to attend performances in conventional opera theatres. (The wonderful morality play of a *Ring* in two evenings was an outstanding example of CBTO magic in miniature.)

The dank and disused Mayfair Suite of Birmingham's Bull Ring Centre beats them all. Its main claim to fame has been in providing the venue for Enoch Powell's notorious "rivers of blood" speech: my taxi driver assured me it had been closed for 15 years. He had obviously had the misfortune to miss both CBTO's fine *Les Boréades* and last year's *Silas Marner*.

In adapting to an extraordinary diversity of spaces it will meet on tour the company will, though, have to face considerable challenges in keeping the needle sharp. In Birmingham, for instance (where *Falstaff* plays on Thursday and Friday before moving on to Cambridge and Carlisle), instrumental and vocal ensemble, set delightfully a-chatter in Dove's version, was at times at odds with itself. And a certain diffusion of concentration inevitably brought about by wide space, tiny stage and no pit requires even firmer stage focus.

Falstaff, for a start, must be even larger than life. Keith Latham is affable enough, and can bow a Verdian phrase like a proud cellist. But the character is a little ill-defined. The post-ducking soliloquy, in particular, showed that he was not quite sure of the register, the tone of voice. More heights and more depths are needed in this Falstaff if we are to tune in to the moments of pathos and torment beneath Verdi's burlesque. His teasers and tormenters, though, are a robust lot and, if the ensemble is at times still a little unsteady in the letter of the vocal law, it is unassailable in spirit.

So much so that it seems invidious to single out any one or two performers. Like the excellent orchestra, conducted by Simon Halsey, with its eloquent single horn and cor anglais, its dancing woodwind and fearless string quartet, the voices make their own rich chamber music. With Nuala Willis's booming Mistress Quickly as their groundbass, Deborah Myers's Nanetta, Stephen Rooke's eager Fenton, Mark Holland's sombre Ford and Kate Flowers's fluttering Alice play contrapuntal catch with each other until the great scarlet curtain finally enfolds them. Don't miss it.

HILARY FINCH

THE TIMES

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Yes to Nono, maybe

HUDDERSFIELD FESTIVAL

Not consumed by ambition to be there in his lifetime — at least, not responding to invitations — this year Luigi Nono has been present in every way but one at the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival. No fewer than five Nono concerts, devoted mainly to the early and late works rather than the politically motivated manifestations of the 1960s and 1970s, have made a special feature of his music.

The paradox remains unresolved. It was represented in a particularly acute form in a late-night concert given by the direct legatees of the late Nono tradition, the Freiburg Solistenchor and Experimental Studio of Südwestfunk, conducted by a close artistic collaborator of the composer, André Richard. On the one hand there was a ten-minute sixtieth birthday tribute to Pierre Boulez — *A Pierre, Dell azzurro silenzio, inquietum* — for bass flute, double-bass clarinet and live electronics, which captures, amplifies and redistributes the merest whispers of instrumental sound in a magical half-heard kind of way. On the other hand, in another first British performance, there was *Das atmende Klarsein*, which does much the same for bass flute and choir but, at more than four times the length, with correspondingly less effect.

Apart from *A Pierre*, it was not a rewarding evening. Earlier, in the Lawrence Batley Theatre, Opera Theatre Company Dublin had performed a version of Monteverdi's *Orfeo* which was disappointing not so much for Michael Alcorn's "interactive" realisation of the instrumental score — at least it left the singing parts more or less intact — as for James Conway's failure to make anything more of his production than a sorry spectacle of seven well-intentioned young singers stranded on an alien stage with a heap of white stones and no hope of rescue. They coped reasonably well with the vocal line and the period decorations but seemed to find themselves disorientated in pitch from time to time by Alcorn's synthesizer and were embarrassed by his slow tempos, though not half as embarrassed as the audience by Orfeo's consummation of his marriage to Euridice.

In the first British performance of Mauricio Kagel's *The Compass Rose* in St Paul's Hall, the heroic percussionist of Musikfabrik climbed on a chair and from his exalted height poured water from a plastic jug into a metal container. At this point we were less than halfway round a banal, two-hour review of eight points of the compass as seen from the southern hemisphere. In concert conditions, with an interval, the world does stop and you can get off.

GERALD LARNER

Meandering without intent

ECO/Judd
Barbican

FOUNDER of the Portsmouth Sinfonia, famous as the ensemble in which possession of an instrument was all, and composer of *Jesus' Blood Never Failed Me Yet*, which catapulted a down-and-out from the streets of London to fame, Gavin Bryars has never been ashamed to champion the cause of the common man, *Barry Millington writes*. To write a Cello Concerto for Julian Lloyd Webber, who seasons his high-brow repertoire with a dash of his brother's popularism, would seem a logical step.

The new concerto, commissioned by Lloyd Webber's recording company, Philips Classics, will certainly not frighten away any punters on account of harsh sonorities. But whether a piece so conspicuously lacking in grit, muscularity, or eventfulness of any kind will commend itself to even the lowest of brows remains to be seen.

Subtitled *Farewell to Philosophy*, the work alludes to a pair of similarly nicknamed Haydn symphonies. It falls into loosely connected sections distinguished by texture as much as theme. After a cantilena for the soloist that seems to stretch for an eternity, the roles are reversed, with solo violins taking the lead.

Marimba, glockenspiel, vibraphone and tubular bells add colour to the texture, which is attractively transparent, allowing the soloist to be heard clearly. But not even the eloquent Lloyd Webber, supported by the English Chamber Orchestra under James Judd, could banish the impression of an amiable, post-prandial meander through the poppy-fields: no end in view and precious little incident on the way. If that sounds to your liking, then you will be pleased to hear that Lloyd Webber and the ECO have just taken *Farewell to Philosophy* into the recording studio.



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Battered but unbowed

After a string of battles, Lord Mackay next month becomes the longest-serving Lord Chancellor this century. Frances Gibb reports

Lord Mackay of Clashfern has just survived the most bruising battle of his eight-year Lord Chancellorship. Mid-contest two weeks ago, he looked tired and drawn. But last week, after clinching a double victory with both his divorce reforms and domestic violence measures included in the Queen's Speech as one Bill, he bore no scars of what might have been the biggest blow of his political career.

"Obviously," he reflects, "I was disappointed that the Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill didn't reach the statute book in the last session, as was intended." But MPs had raised concerns which "turned it into a more controversial Bill than had hitherto been thought". Lack of parliamentary time then meant the Bill had to be dropped. "On the other hand, it fits quite well into the Divorce Bill and, therefore, I had the opportunity of putting it back in, making some modifications to take account of the concerns expressed in it."

The furore sparked by a group of right-wing Tory MPs and fanned by the *Daily Mail* ignited almost overnight. Criticisms first focused on the domestic violence measures, wrongly thought to give property rights to "live-in lovers"; but then spread to the divorce reforms, already charged by some as undermining family values. Lord Mackay suddenly found himself fighting a last-ditch battle to retain key reforms which had been years in gestation and undergone exhaustive consultation.

> He will go down as the man who shook up lawyers' restrictive practices

Typically, he rejected politicians' tactics and played it by the book. There was no breaking of ranks with Cabinet colleagues; nor use of public platforms to stake his claim. "I think it's right that the Government should give an opportunity to Parliament to consider this very important part of our law relating to divorce, and also, I was very keen that legal aid funds should be available in support of mediation. I was certainly very keen for that." But, he adds, there were "competing claims" for the Queen's Speech and the decision on its contents was for the Government as a whole. "I was just one of a team in that connection."

In the aftermath, Lord Mackay has been accused of lacking in political nous, or the antennae which might have prevented the rumpus. He rejects the charge. "Well, I've been a member of the Government for something like 13 years (including time as a law officer in Scotland). And it would be a slow learner that learnt nothing in that time." Nor will he brook any implied criticism of John Taylor, MP, who represents him in the Commons. "I have the highest confidence in the Parliamentary Secretary." The problem arose very quickly, he added. "I don't think anyone could have known it was going to arise until it did."

A battle still looms ahead in Parliament. Notwithstanding, Lord Mackay is driving ahead on other fronts: notably reforms to the £1.4 billion legal aid scheme. The proposals are controversial. He envisages the first cash-limits in what has always been a demand-led scheme. But, in recent weeks, he appears to have shifted the focus of his message: the proposals are not primarily aimed at curbing soaring costs. "Obviously, it is of concern to make sure that public money is properly spent, but the central issue that I'm addressing is how to deliver legal aid services to a predetermined budget."

The White Paper, therefore, is likely to suggest a move in legal services from lawyers to advice agencies. The question was not just how to keep down costs of a particular service; it was also whether those services themselves were the best from the public's viewpoint. Lord Mackay gives no signs of backing off from any proposal, even that to impose a cash-limit on criminal legal aid. The task was "difficult, but not impossible," he says. "I certainly believe that it's wise to try to have a predetermined budget for the legal budget as a whole and its principal component parts."

He still also favours block contracts with law firms or advice agencies working to NHS-style budgets and hiring barristers where needed. But he accepts there must be "incentives" to ensure that solicitors, in making best use of their money, do instruct the Bar where it is in the client's interest.

Then there are interim proposals from Lord Woolf on civil justice. So far Lord Mackay has announced action on just one proposal, an increase in the limit of the small claims court. Lord Woolf is anxious that this should be a first — not an isolated — step.

Lord Mackay is cautious. He says, however: "I would wish to consider the report as a whole and to do what I can to implement it... I believe that the thrust of what he is proposing is correct." Detailed work, however, had to be carried out on the resource implications.

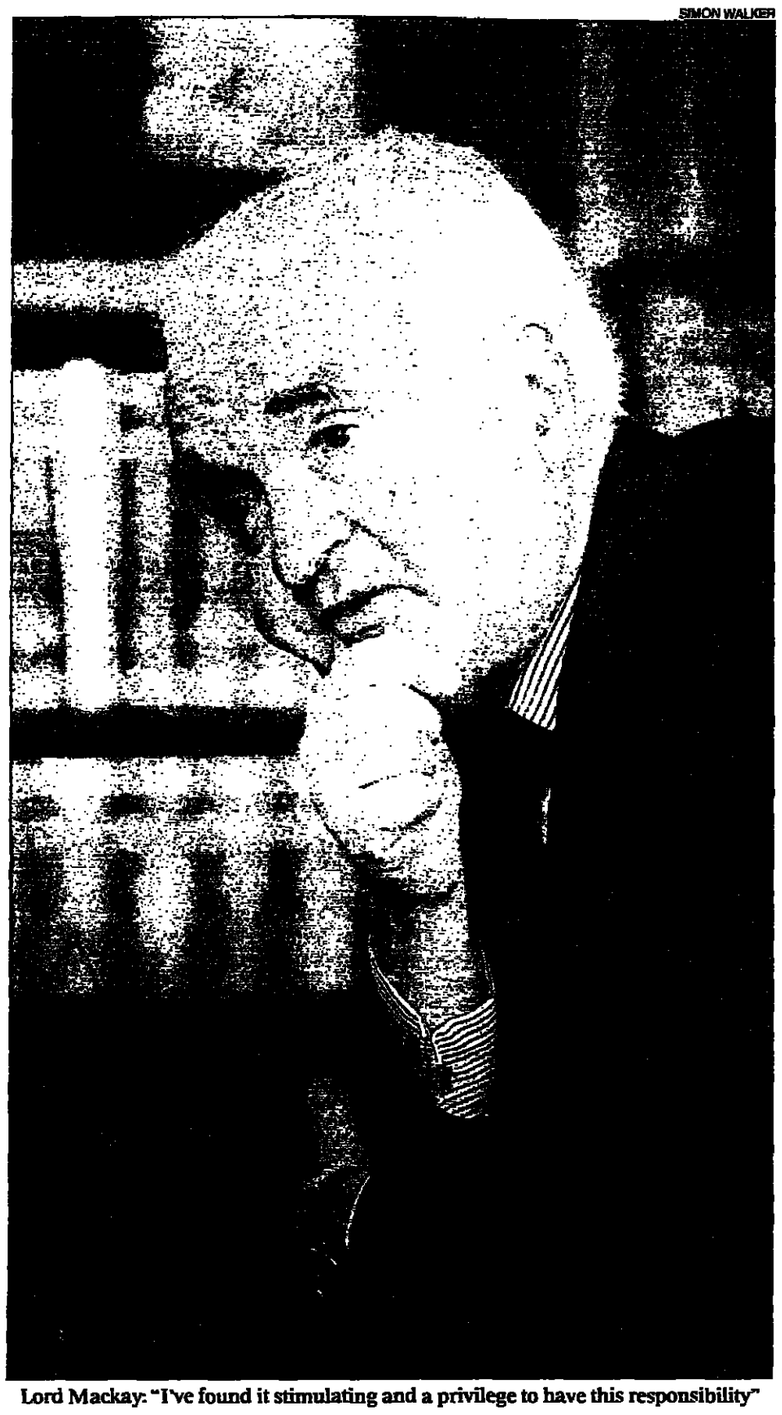
Lord Mackay, now 68, shows no sign of slowing down. Next month, he becomes the longest-serving Lord Chancellor this century at a single stretch. His unique constitutional position straddles judiciary and executive. That, he says, brings its own challenges. But he dismisses reports that relations between the two powers are at an all-time low in the wake of several court rulings against the Home Secretary; or that the judges are getting above themselves.

"No one likes, as a litigant, to be found in the wrong, and obviously it's a very difficult thing for someone prominent in the public eye," he says. The judges, in judicial review cases, were just fulfilling their role in examining the legality of procedures in the decision-making process.

Among lawyers, Lord Mackay will probably go down as the man who shook up their restrictive practices. But he cites the Children Act 1989 as the piece of work of which he is most proud. "I believe the parts of it I was concerned with, the principles of the Act, have proved to be extremely good and have been adopted in other parts of the world."

Meanwhile, streetwise politician or — perhaps more accurately — canny advocate, he relishes the tasks ahead. "Some days are better than others but I've found it stimulating, interesting and a great privilege to have this responsibility." It has been a heavy and difficult one; but, he adds, "I haven't been one to run away from responsibilities."

SIMON WALKER



Lord Mackay: "I've found it stimulating and a privilege to have this responsibility"

Should JPs be made to pay costs?

When magistrates' decisions are overturned on appeal, should they be made to pay the costs? Magistrates award costs in suitable cases but, until recently at least, never considered that they themselves might be on the receiving end. Yet this is an increasing risk they face. The rise in judicial review, which has brought challenges to justices' decisions over "poll tax" defaulters and this year's award of costs against the Lincoln justices, is a worrying trend.

A similar case in the High Court last Tuesday involved another Lincolnshire Bench. Apart from the fear of having costs awarded against them, what also worried the justices was that only a week before the judicial review, the bench in question was asked to quash the original justices' decision to commit the defaulter to prison. If a consent form was signed to this effect, the appeal for the review would be cancelled.

The chairman of the bench said: "It is virtual blackmail and makes a mockery of the justice system." As much of a mockery perhaps as what eventually happened. No one turned up and the judge dismissed the case.



PAULA DAVIES

The Justices Clerks' Society, in a paper suggesting reform of the costs system, says there is "grave danger that wrong judgments may be made in default because of fears of awards of costs being made against individual members of a court". Yet an ordinary person might reasonably say that "under the law justices ought to be treated like anyone else".

In fact it would be fairer if they were treated like judges who are indemnified against any costs. "This matter touches us deeply," Rosemary Thomson, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, says. "Like judges, magistrates man our courts conscientously, day in and day out and form judgment and pass sentences on the facts before us. Unlike judges, we do this work at some personal sacrifice of time and money and, unlike judges, costs may be awarded against us. We feel demeaned and undervalued by the present situation and seek its speedy amendment."

Yet again, there seems to be no real problem since justices will be reimbursed by their local Magistrates' Courts Committee. In the past, and indeed in the case of the Lincoln justices, this is what has happened.

But the reimbursement of costs is not automatic. It can happen only at the discretion of the local Magistrates' Courts Committees — which run the magistrates' courts — provided JPs can show that they have acted reasonably and without bad faith. Apart from the difficulties of defining reasonableness, there is another problem which has come about with the Police and Magistrates' Courts Act. Thanks to the new cash-limited budgets that Magistrates Courts' Committees have to operate, there is no guarantee that reimbursement can continue.

If the committee has no funds available, then an application has to be made to the Lord Chancellor's Department or to the local authority for supplementary payments. These bodies — as the Justices' Clerks Society points out — may be unable or even unwilling to help. In the end, the local authority could be the body entitled to the costs payable by justices and be in the invidious position of having to agree to reimburse or refuse to reimburse costs due to itself.

Magistrates are even afraid of being made bankrupt. Joanne Atkinson from Spalding resigned in October from her local bench because of her worries. "I spoke to our clerk and have written to the Lord Chancellor. The answers I received were somewhat ambiguous. They tried to put my mind at rest but soothing noises are not good enough. We do the job voluntarily and I believe magistrates should be nurtured and not put under such strains."

A justices' clerk who is at present involved in defending judicial review applications is equally worried. "Provided the court had acted in good faith and without malice, no costs against justices were usually ordered even if the judicial review found against their judgment. This attitude seems to be changing as more cases appear." The Justices' Clerks Society has just undertaken a survey of its members about cases over the past 18 months. These are expected to show a significant growth in the number of community charge defaulters, cases sent for judicial review. One clerk even suggested that fine defaulters are moving this way, too.

The Lord Chancellor's Department says that the problem of magistrates' liability for costs is under consideration.

Perhaps the Lord Chancellor is waiting to hear what the European Court of Human Rights will decide in the case of *Benham v UK*. In this case heard last Wednesday, Stephen Benham, a "poll tax" defaulter, is asking for compensation for false imprisonment. The application was made after the Divisional Court allowed his appeal in 1991. Judgment is not expected until next year. Whatever the outcome, however, there is little doubt that, unless there is suitable indemnity against costs for lay justices, the Lord Chancellor may find that recruiting new magistrates will become very difficult indeed.

● *The author is an Inner London magistrate.*

Bar to ballot

THE BAR will be in trouble if its membership does not approve its watered-down complaints system. Since the proposals failed to win rank-and-file backing last week, they will go to a ballot of the profession.

The claim of Peter Goldsmith, QC, that if the Bar did not regulate itself, others would, swiftly proved justified. Paul Boateng, Labour's legal affairs spokesman, said that Parliament might have to introduce a statutory complaints system.

Barristers voted by 188 to 104 not to press ahead but to hold a ballot on the proposals.

● *Marketing a law firm must be a serious business if the pay is anything to go by.* *Ashurst Morris Crisp, a City law firm, is looking for a new marketing head at £80,000.*

Sharp words

HEADHUNTERS are seeking a successor to John Hayes, the Law Society's chief executive for the past ten years. Mr Hayes has just been appointed by Peter Lilley, the Secretary of State for Social Services, as the chairman of the new Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority. A delighted Mr Hayes said he hoped that the timing of his departure — next May — would allow the Law Society Council enough time to appoint a successor.

Martin Mears, the society president, wants the next chief executive to be more answerable to the society council.

Master's voice

SIR Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, looks like getting the three extra Court of Appeal judges he wants to ease the record backlog of civil appeals. Lord Mackay of Clashfern is sympathetic and is said to be optimistic about finding the resources.

The normally studious-looking Sir Thomas caused hilarity at the High Court Journalists' Association dinner last week. Praising the organisers for not fixing the date on the night of the Princess of Wales's revelations, he admitted that he would have found difficulty competing with Diana. He said: "I could not have confessed to infidelity with James Hewitt, since the courts have upheld the ban on gays in the Armed Forces." The numbers in a judicial marriage were best not investigated, he added. "But I could have predicted that I would never be Queen."

Legal brief

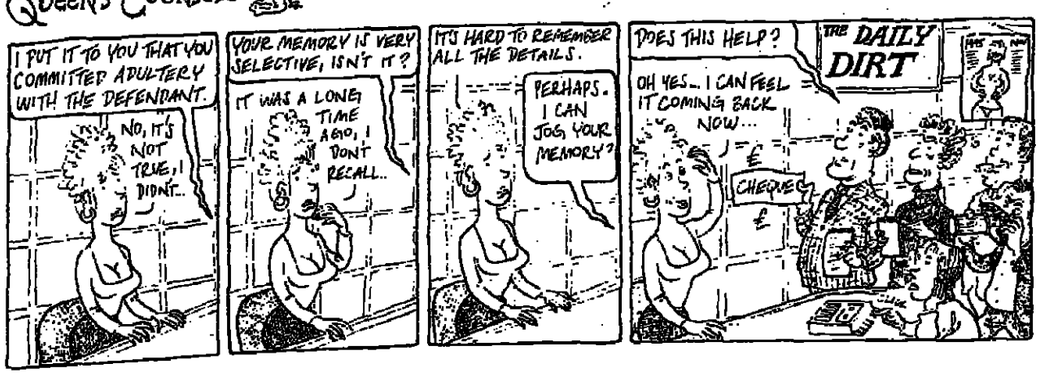
CHRISTOPHER Bellamy, QC, the British judge on the Court of First Instance of the European Communities, will be explaining to a distinguished gathering at Lincoln's Inn this evening exactly how the European Commission is kept in check. The judge is delivering a lecture, organised by Hardwicke Building chambers, on the contemporary role of the European Court of Justice.

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هكذا من الاصل



LEGAL ROUNDUP

Retreat over tribunals

☐ The Government has withdrawn the most controversial of its proposed reforms of *industrial tribunals*, published in a White Paper last year. John Monks, the TUC General Secretary, welcomed the decision. The proposal — to allow chairmen to sit alone without lay members in some cases — "would have done most damage to the *industrial tribunal* system", he says.

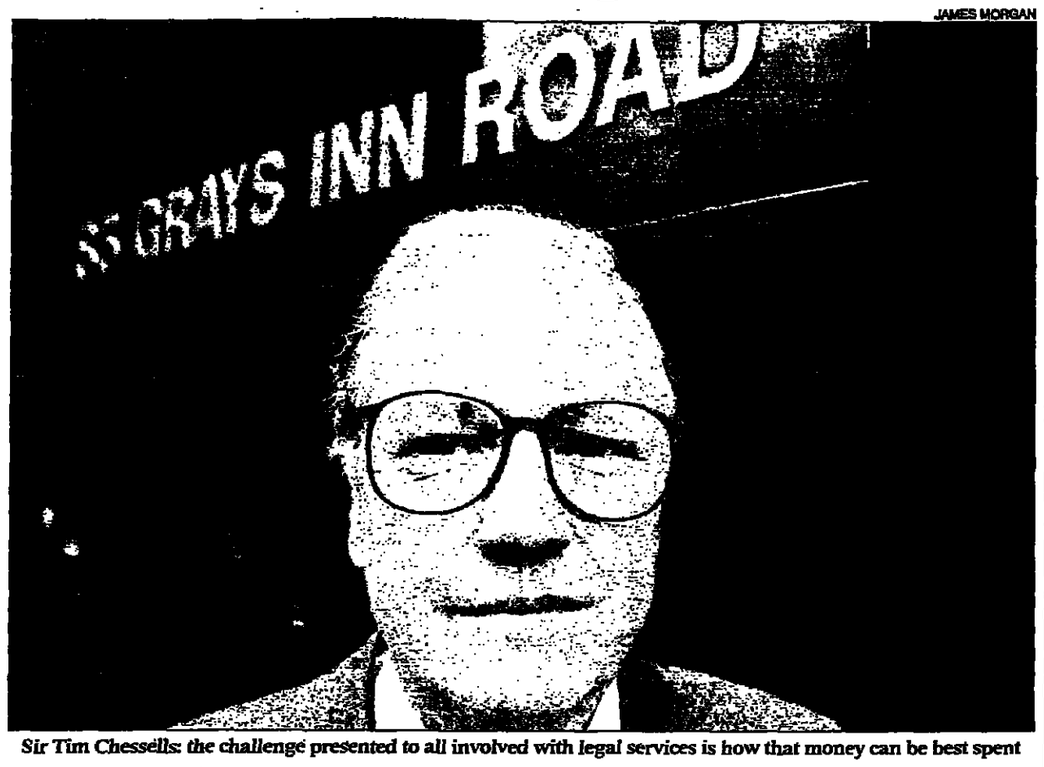
☐ Lawyers are softening up their vocal chords for Christmas. The Law Courts in The Strand on December 14 will resound to choral music and carols in aid of the Royal Courts of Justice Citizens Advice Bureau. The Lord Chief Justice and other senior judges will hear the Treasury Singers, a group of 50 from Whitehall, including a sizeable group from the Lord Chancellor's Department. Edward Adams, the choir's conductor, is a department official, as well as secretary to the Lord Chief Justice. The event is to raise money for the trust, which supports the CAB and its work with litigants in person.

☐ The Chancery Bar Association is urging judges to be "innovative" over the law on home-sharing so that *the law can be reformed* without legislation. Reforms are being prepared by the Law Commission. Problems can arise when people set up home and the arrangement later ends. But Reziya Harrison, a Chancery barrister who organised a workshop on the topic, says that much could be done by the courts to tackle the problems without legislation. Groups affected are those sharing a home, old relatives living with younger families, or people buying council homes with a relative's help.

FRANCES GIBB

First aid for legal aid

The £1.4 billion a year legal aid scheme is being overhauled. Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, has outlined a series of measures in a Green Paper, prompting strong opposition from the legal profession. SIR TIM CHESSELLS, who writes here, favours the proposals for quality *controls on those doing* legal aid work and — more controversially — for some kind of audit of their "outcomes"



JAMES MORGAN

Sir Tim Chessells: the challenge presented to all involved with legal services is how that money can be best spent

Today the Legal Aid Board publishes its response to the Lord Chancellor's plans for the £1.4 billion legal aid system. At the board, we take a different view from the Law Society and the Bar. The board, while recognising the problems inherent in fundamental change, believes such change is necessary.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern has offered an opportunity to make improvements that could lead to more of the right people receiving the legal aid they need, while excluding the undeserving and the less competent lawyers. Such a change was never going to be popular with the professional bodies. But many individual practitioners share our view that the present system is losing credibility and cannot continue.

The main changes the board wants to see include more *involvement by non-lawyers* in the delivery of legal services. Many advice agencies, including Citizens Advice Bureaux, have developed great expertise in legal advice in areas such as employment, housing and welfare benefits. This work brings benefits to the poorest and most vulnerable. Some solicitors do this work but not many. A widespread involvement of advice agencies, working closely with solicitors and law centres, can deliver the sort of service more likely to meet people's needs.

We also want poor quality lawyers excluded from delivering legal aid. Over five years the board has developed a quality assurance scheme for legal services, designed to recognise good practice. Lord Mackay proposes that eventually only those lawyers, agencies and law centres meeting the quality standards will be paid legal aid money.

My challenge to the Law Society and the Bar is to recognise public disquiet and to address it. The Law Society has *introduced specialisation panels* and worked with the board on an accreditation scheme that seeks to ensure that non-lawyers giving advice at the police station have the right training and skills to do it. This approach should be extended. One of the best ways of ensuring a quality service to the client is to insist that, in each area of law, every lawyers' practice has at least one person with experience and legal knowledge of a high order who will supervise all relevant work carried out in the practice.

The Law Society could introduce a scheme which identified the level of experience and competence required in a supervisor and the board could check, through our work with individual firms, that the supervision methods were robust enough to ensure that more junior or less experienced staff were delivering a good service. If not, then any problems should be addressed through training and appraisals. This approach is basic to the way most organisations are run. Why cannot it become part of the culture in all legal practices?

There are other elements we think are relevant to good quality work. Every case has an outcome of some sort, whether it be a damages award, a court order or negotiated agreement on contact with the children of a failed marriage, or a settlement of a dispute over the state of disrepair of a house. We should look look much more closely at the outcomes achieved by individual firms for their clients. How did the outcomes compare with the lawyers' expectations at the start of the case? Was the client satisfied? Obviously, individual cases do not always turn out as expected, but a view taken over a number of cases would be a valid method of forming judgments on the quality of work performed.

Lord Mackay also believes that the overall cost of the system must not exceed what is affordable. What is affordable can be decided only by the Government of the day. This is not unreasonable given the competing demands on the public purse. The challenge to all of us involved with legal services is how that money can be spent to the best effect, providing maximum good in a way that gives the public confidence in a legal aid system which, ultimately, they pay for.

● *The author is chairman of the Legal Aid Board.*

LAST CHANCE FOR THE 1995 TIMES LAW AWARDS

STUDENTS have until the end of this week to submit their entries for this year's Times Law Awards, sponsored by the chambers of Anthony Grabiner, QC, at 1 Essex Court. The theme is "Advocacy — what is the future?"

Students of any discipline at a UK institution are invited to submit an article on this topic, of no more than 1,000 words, to be delivered by this Friday.

The prizes total £6,750 and the winning article will be published in *The Times* law pages. Rules and instructions for entering appeared in *The Times* on October 10.

Right for TV? Ask a lawyer

Specialist firms are being called in to deal with the pioneering issues arising out of broadcasting

It is no surprise that Virgin Television is taking its battle with the Independent Television Commission (ITC) over Channel 5 to the High Court. Freshfields, a leading City law firm, is acting for Virgin and concentrating its attack on the ITC's argument that the Virgin consortium had failed the "quality threshold". Sorting out what quality means on television has now become the job of lawyers.

Medwyn Jones, of Harbottle & Lewis, a media law firm, acted for Virgin when the original bid was made. He says: "When the ITC originally announced its decision on the Channel 5 bid, we were surprised that the reasons given for failing Virgin on the quality threshold were so detailed. What was supposed to be a press release read as if it had been written by lawyers... like a defence in an action." Many lawyers regarded the unsatisfactory nature of the Broadcasting Act to be the key cause of this, and many another, dispute.



According to David Norris of the broadcasting specialists Marriott Harrison, the Act is "a mess", which has given the ITC an almost impossible task. As a result, the regulatory regime seems to be full of grey areas.

Tony Ballard, of Allison & Humphreys, which regularly advises the BBC, as well as many independent producers, says exasperated clients "look at the regulations and tear their hair and ask: 'What on earth does this mean?'".

Mr Ballard said that the fact that Virgin is being allowed to go to judicial review is part of a growing trend towards its use as a commercial option and symptomatic of the blurring of lines between the public and the private sectors. Mr Ballard cites the deal between the BBC and Pearson as reflecting the impact of the Government's private finance initiative. Law firms such as Allison & Humphreys are increasingly being brought in to deal with such transactions.

Mr Ballard says: "Life in the broadcasting field used to be very predictable, but that has completely changed. The regular work has all gone in-house, leaving specialist firms to address the pioneering issues arising out of new business opportunities." The role of the independent producer is central to this. Actually defining what an independent producer is has almost become a specialism in itself. Mr Jones is aware that the "sweetheart deals" and cross-ownerships between broadcasters and producers can create a doubt about whether or not a producer truly is independent and therefore counts towards the obligatory 25 per cent outsourcing.

Over the horizon, however, lies a further debate about how far the ITC writ will run. Laurence Kaye of the Simpkins Partnership, a specialist in multimedia law, says that under the impact of new technology and the introduction of broad-band services, there was also a blurring between broadcasting and telecommunications.

"As a lawyer who acts for American companies interested in providing video on demand, I foresee an unclear border zone between the role of Oftel and the ITC," he says. "The division between the two is by no means clear-cut."

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Interested applicants should in the first instance contact Sue Lintern at Michael Page City, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH for an information pack, quoting reference number 259028. Telephone 0171 831 2000. Closing date Wednesday 6th December 1995.

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Court of Appeal | Law Report November 28 1995 | Chancery Division

No unfairness in Guinness trial evidence

Regina v Saunders
Regina v Parnes
Regina v Ronson
Regina v Lyons

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny and Mr Justice Potter

[Judgment November 27]

There was no unfairness in allowing the use in a criminal trial of evidence arising out of interviews conducted with the defendants by inspectors from the Department of Trade and Industry.

The contention that section 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 could be used in a judge's discretion to prevent use in a trial of self-incriminatory statements of a defendant made because of powers in section 434(5) in Part XIV of the Companies Act 1985 formed an unsuccessful ground of appeal against conviction in what had become known as "the Guinness trial" on a reference by the Home Secretary under section 17(1)(a) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968.

The appellants, Ernest Walter Saunders, Anthony Keith Parnes, Gerald Maurice Ronson and Isadore Jack Lyons, had each been convicted on August 27, 1990 at the Central Criminal Court after a six-month trial (Mr Justice Henry and a jury) on an indictment containing counts of conspiracy to contravene sections of the Prevention of Fraud Investments Act 1958, false accounting contrary to the Theft Act 1968, theft, and conspiracy to contravene the 1985 Act.

Saunders was sentenced to five years imprisonment, reduced to 2½ years on appeal; Parnes to 2½ years, reduced to 21 months on appeal, and ordered to pay £440,000 costs, reduced to £300,000 on appeal; Ronson to 12 months imprisonment, fined £5,000,000 with four years consecutive in default and ordered to pay £440,000 costs, reduced to £300,000 on appeal; Lyons was fined £3,000,000 with five years imprisonment in default of payment and ordered to pay £440,000 prosecution costs, reduced to £300,000 on appeal.

Section 78 of the 1984 Act provides: "(1) In any proceedings the court may refuse to allow evidence on which the prosecution proposes to rely to be given if it appears to the court that, having regard to all the circumstances, including the circumstances in which the evidence was obtained, the admission of the evidence would have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that the court ought not to admit it."

Section 434 of the 1985 Act provides: "(2) The secretary of state may appoint ... inspectors to investigate the affairs of a company and report on them...

"(3) An inspector may examine on oath the officers ... of the company ... and may administer an oath...

"(5) An answer given by a person to a question put to him in exercise of powers conferred by this section ... may be used in evidence against him..."

Section 437 of the 1985 Act provided for punishment of an offender refusing to answer questions as if he had been guilty of contempt of court and sections 449 and 451A, as substituted by section 68 of the Companies Act 1989, permitted the secretary of state to disclose information obtained under Part XIV to any competent authority including the Director of Public Prosecutions and the police.

Mr Jonathan Caplan, QC and Mr Justin Cole, neither of whom appeared below, for Saunders; Mr Nicholas Purnell, QC, who did not appear below, and Miss Clare Montgomery for Parnes; Mr John Mathew, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Ian Gatt for Ronson; Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr Mark Ellison, neither of whom appeared below, for Lyons; Mr Sidney Kentridge, QC, who did not appear below, Miss Elizabeth Gloster, QC and Mr Victor Temple, QC, for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, delivering the reserved judgment of the court, said that the main issue at the trial was whether the appellants were proved to have acted dishonestly.

The first broad ground of appeal arose from the circumstances in which Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) inspectors rather than the police were allowed to interview the appellants a number of times and from the admissions in evidence of the transcripts of those interviews.

The submission was that, since the inspectors were not obliged to conduct their questioning under caution or otherwise in accordance with the 1984 Act, once it appeared that criminal offences had or might have been committed, the police should have been brought in and interviews with the appellants as suspects should then have been conducted by the police in accordance with the *Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (s.66) Codes of Practice*.

The failure to adopt that course was unfair. Because of the sanctions for failing to answer DTI inspectors' questions, the appellants were deprived of protection against self-incrimination. In the result, reliance by the prosecution on the transcripts amounted to an abuse of process.

Alternatively, the submission was that pursuant to section 78 of the 1984 Act, the trial judge ought not to have admitted the transcripts in evidence, and he would not have done so had he seen the documents which had been disclosed since the present appeal was launched, and those documents should have been made available for the trial.

Mr Caplan had referred to the long-established common law principle that no person should be required to incriminate himself. However, Parliament could override that principle and had done so, for example, in the fields of insolvency and company fraud.

The appellants did not contest that Parliament in Part XIV of the 1985 Act had overridden the principle against self-incrimination, and they did not challenge that answers so obtained could be admitted in criminal proceedings.

However, they submitted that the trial judge ought to have excluded the transcripts of the interviews with the DTI inspectors, pursuant to section 78 of the 1984 Act.

There were three possible methods of questioning the appellants about suspected fraud: by the police, by the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) or by the DTI inspectors. Only the third course permitted both questioning without the safeguards of the 1984 Act and the admission of the answers at the trial of the present indictment.

It was submitted that that constituted an anomaly which the judge ought to have corrected by discretionary exclusion of the transcripts.

The appellants relied strongly on obiter dicta in *In re Arrows (No 4) (Hamilton v Naviede)* ([1995] 2 AC 75) by Lord Browne-Wilkinson who gave the principal speech and said it was an unexplained anomaly that Parliament had taken care to include the protection afforded by section 2(8) of the Criminal Justice Act 1987 against powers of the director of the SFO under section 2(2) to require the person questioned to answer and if he refused without reasonable excuse he was guilty of an offence and liable to imprisonment, the protection being that a self-incriminatory statement made in pursuance of such a requirement could be used in evidence against the maker only on a prosecution for an offence of knowingly or recklessly making a false statement in purported compliance with the requirement, or for some other offence involving an inconsistent statement.

Lord Browne-Wilkinson had said (p108F) that, in his judgment, the unexplained anomaly could be taken into account when the judge was exercising his powers under section 78 of the 1984 Act.

Mr Kentridge challenged the expression "unexplained anomaly" and contended that the explanation lay in the very different regime of interviews by DTI inspectors compared with that of interviews either by the police or the SFO. DTI inspectors were investigators and, unlike the police or SFO, were not prosecutors or potential prosecutors.

The Lord Chief Justice said that, whether or not those matters constituted a sufficient explanation and whether or not the distinction was an anomaly, the fact remained that the distinction existed because Parliament had created it. When enacting section 2(8) of the 1987 Act, it would have been open to Parliament to have amended section 434(5) of the 1985 Act and other similar provisions so as to bring them into line with section 2(8).

Parliament's decision not to do so was no oversight.

Mr Caplan submitted that, in applying section 78 of the 1984 Act, the trial judge should also have regard to article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights and, having done so, should have excluded the interviews.

English courts could have recourse to the European Convention on Human Rights and decisions thereon by the European Court of Human Rights only when the law of England was ambiguous or unclear.

Saunders had taken his case to Europe on that issue and the European Commission on Human Rights had referred it to the European Court in Strasbourg. Should he succeed there, treaty obligations would require consideration to be given to the effect of the decision in the United Kingdom. But their Lordships' duty at present was to apply our domestic law, which was unambiguous.

Parliament had made its intentions quite clear in section 434(5) of the 1985 Act. It could not be right for a judge to exercise his discretion to exclude evidence of interviews simply on the ground that Parliament ought not to have countenanced the possibility of self-incrimination.

Nor could he properly do so for the general purpose of bringing section 434(5) into line with section 2(8) of the 1987 Act, a step which Parliament had advisedly declined to take.

The admission in evidence of answers which Parliament had said might be admitted could not be regarded as unfair per se under section 78 simply because of inherent features of the statutory regime under which they had been obtained.

However, in considering whether the particular application of the statutory regime in a given case created any unfairness, a judge could, in their Lordships' view, as part of the background setting, have in mind that under that regime there was an obligation to answer the inspectors' questions on pain of sanctions.

In that sense their Lordships respectfully agreed with Lord Browne-Wilkinson that the judge could take those features of the regime into account.

Their Lordships, having seen all the cornucopia of privileged documents produced for the appeal, concluded that there was no abuse of process or improper collusion and nothing in the circumstances rendered admission of the transcripts unfair.

Their Lordships considered in detail the facts and grounds of appeal and concluded that, despite the mass of paper and the factual complexity of some of the transactions, the issues in the case were essentially stark and simple.

They turned on the jury's view whether the appellants had been proved to have acted dishonestly. A combination of indemnities paid by Guinness to purchasers of its own shares, false invoices, huge success fees even to the Guinness board, provided ample evidence of a dishonest scheme in which all the appellants played their parts.

The jury clearly disbelieved Saunders' evidence that he knew nothing of the indemnities and success fees. None of the other appellants had given evidence.

In their Lordships' view the jury were well justified in finding them all to have acted dishonestly. It followed that, apart from allowing Lyons' appeal in respect of a count of conspiracy of which Saunders had been acquitted on appeal and quashing Lyons' conviction and sentence on that count, all the appeals had to be dismissed.

Solicitors: Vernon, Miles & Noble; Peters & Peters; Mishcon de Reya; Stephens Harwood: Serious Fraud Office.

Whether deceased had control of company

Walding and Others v Inland Revenue Commissioners

Before Mr Justice Knox

[Judgment November 22]

For the purposes of obtaining business property relief from inheritance tax, the determination of whether a shareholder controlled the company within the meaning of section 269(1) of the Inheritance Tax Act 1984, as renamed by section 100 of the Finance Act 1986, required account to be taken of the shareholding of a child who was too young to exercise the voting rights attached to the shares.

Mr Justice Knox so held in the Chancery Division when dismissing an appeal by Mr A. T. G. Walding, Mr G. M. Wildin and Mr S. G. James, the executors of the estate of Mrs K. L. Walding, deceased, against a notice of determination by the Inland Revenue Commissioners that at the date of her death she did not have control of Leeways Packaging Services Ltd with the result that certain company property comprised in her estate was not relevant business property so as to qualify for relief under section 104 of the Act.

Section 269 of the 1984 Act provides: "(1) For the purposes of this Act a person has control of a company at any time if then he has the control of powers of voting on all question affecting the company as a whole which if exercised would yield a majority of the votes capable of being exercised on them."

Mr Hugh McKay for the executors; Mr Michael Furness for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE KNOX said that the company had in issue at the date of the deceased's death 100 shares: 45 were registered in the deceased's name, 31 in the name of her son or his wife and 24 in the name of her grandson who was not quite five years old. It was clear in practical terms that the child was not in a position to exercise the voting rights attached to his 24 shares.

The issue was whether the provisions of section 269(1) applied so as to confer on the deceased control of "powers of voting on all questions affecting the company as a whole". If she had that control the business property relief was available.

For the executors it was argued that the test of whether a person had the necessary control was subjective and required regard to be had to the personal capacity or incapacity of persons holding the powers of voting.

Thus, it was said, the test necessitated an inquiry into the circumstances of any particular case to determine who had control and in the instant case that hinged on whether the votes in respect of the child's shares were capable of being exercised.

That argument was not acceptable. Section 269(1) was dealing with the ambit of the powers of voting, not the capabilities of the shareholders in whose names the shares were registered.

It distinguished between powers of voting on all questions affecting the company as a whole and those voting rights which, when exercised did not have such an affect and which would fall to be disregarded under the subsection.

Such a construction of the provision was fortified by its practical consequences of giving to all taxpayers an equal right of claiming relief regardless of any mental or physical capacity that they might have.

Solicitors: Gwyn James & Co, Lydney; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Duty to obey order

Coca Cola Company and Another v Gilbey and Others

The fact that the associates of a tortfeasor had a propensity towards violence and a willingness to adopt extreme measures could not exempt him from his ordinary obligation to provide information necessary to protect and preserve the interests of their victim.

Mr Justice Lightman so held in the Chancery Division on September 15, in refusing an application by the sixteenth defendant, Mr Periclis Pericleous (alias Peter Pericleous, alias Peter Smith), to discharge so much of an Anton Piller order made against him on September 5, 1995 as required him to give information relating to the whereabouts of items and documents and the names of those involved in making, supplying, distributing and selling to the public counterfeit bottles of Coca Cola and Schweppes lemonade.

Consultant's travel costs not tax-deductible

Miners v Atkinson (Inspector of Taxes)

Before Mrs Justice Arden

[Judgment November 7]

Travel costs incurred by a computer consultant working and living in service accommodation during the week but travelling home at weekends was not deductible for Schedule E income tax purposes.

The consultant had not shown that the expenditure was necessarily incurred by him in the performance of his duties within the meaning of section 198(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Mrs Justice Arden so held in the Chancery Division when dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr Roger C. Miners, from a determination in principle by a special commissioner (Mr T. H. K. Everett) that related to assessments to income tax under Schedule E for the years from 1986-7 to 1990-1.

Mr Jeremy Woolf for the taxpayer; Mr Timothy Brennan for the Crown.

MRS JUSTICE ARDEN said that the question was whether the expenditure on journeys made by the taxpayer from his home in Bedfordshire to his work place in Croydon was money incurred "wholly, exclusively and necessarily in the performance of" the duties of his employment.

The taxpayer at all material times was a computer consultant employed by his own company, WCLA Ltd. The company's registered office was the taxpayer's home address at Flitwick in Bedfordshire. Under the terms of a consultancy agreement between the company and Lombard North Central plc, the taxpayer provided his services to Lombard at its Croydon office.

The taxpayer purchased a flat in Croydon that he used when he worked at Lombard's office. He returned to Flitwick at weekends where most of his duties as a director of WCLA were carried out.

Having referred to *Pook v Owen* ([1970] AC 244), *Horton v Young* ([1972] 2 Ch 157) and *Taylor v Provan* ([1975] AC 194), the special commissioner had said that he could not accept that the taxpayer's travelling expenses were incurred necessarily.

The taxpayer, he had said, had "made it clear that the reason he purchased the flat was because of the hassle, as he described it, of his daily journeys, some 80 miles each way, from Flitwick to Croydon". He could have moved to Croydon and established WCLA's registered office there. In his journeys to and from Flitwick, the commissioner concluded, the taxpayer was merely going to and from his home.

Lord Reid in *Taylor v Provan* having referred to *Ricketts v Colquhoun* ([1926] AC 1), said (at p208): "If the place where a man resides is his personal choice he cannot claim with regard to expenses made necessary by that personal choice. If the holder of an office or employment has to do part of his work at home the place where he resides is generally still his personal choice."

In the light of that and the findings to which the commissioner came, he was correct in his conclusion that the taxpayer's travelling expenses were not deductible.

Solicitors: Russells, Chingford; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

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T I Abbott, A R Abel, A A Abidi, R Akeroyd, A A Ali, A M Anderson, I Anderton, B J Anthony, H R Q Arnold, D Ascroft, M Asim, P J Austin, K I Ba-Maung, B Badmus, I B Baharin, D Bailey, A G Baird, H S Baker, A Bal, T J Ballinger, G M Bannister-Green, R J Barnes, W Baxendale, M H Beach, A Beaumont, M H J Bollen, S J Borrer, J Bouchard, T I Bower, S W Brannon, A C T Briggs, C L Bright, J D Brook, A J Bryan, P J Bullock, A K Burchell, M J Burns, O P Campbell, B W Cann, J Capper, D Carlisle, D E Carlton, C S Chan, S P Chan, T S Chan, I D Chapman, O L Chau, K L Cheng, H S Chikwanda, K L Chiu, C H Chum, S R Clement, K M Close, A D Coles, T J Collyer, P J Cook, D Cooper, R S Cooper, A P Crooks, R N Cunliffe, P G J Dailey, N Dandachi, G A Davidson, D Davies, J F De Jesus, K P De Jonk, W T R De Silva, R H Deaves, J E Dempster, F Deravi, D J Diamond, J K Dodds, K P Doherty, P A Downey, G K Dowson, W H Drake, D Dryden, T P Duguid, J J Durham, M El-Hami, J A Elliott, I F English, S Erfani, C L Evans, D R G Faveere, K W Feather, N A Fedden, D P S Ferris, B J Firago, B P Flanagan, J Ford, L R Formston, D J Forrest, A H Fowler, R H Fox, M J Gainsbury, D Gardner, A F Garside, P A Garthwaite, F M F Gaston, G F Ghiglione, N Gibson, A D Giles, D D Goodwin, A P Grace, A C Graves, J M Gray, A R Green, E A S Green, J J Greening, A P Grennan, D M Griffin, P J W Grigson, C D Gurnam, A Gwenter, I P Gwynne, C I Hansford, L Hanzo, M A Hargreaves, A D Hart, J V Hatfield, M J Hawkins, S Healings, J J Heath-Caldwell, P E C Hemmings, B Henderson, Y Hepburn, K Heydari, A J Hickman, R Higgins, P K H Ho, S K T Ho, W H Ho, M K Hol, M G Holmes, R D Holmwood, T Horvath, R J Hosier, G Hughes, P M Hul, P W Huish, D J Hunter, R A Hyde, D Iles, R P Irwin, D S Ivory, M B V James, P J Jay, G B Jessiman, M D Johnston, R J Johnston, A C Jones, A D G Jones, C B Jones, C R Jones, K R Jones, R T Jones, P M Kell, S Kelly, M D Kendall, R J Kerr, K Kettridge, M S King, A Z Krasniewski, S K J Ku, K H Kwok, W H Kwok, M K Laben, K Y Law, K F Lee, S D Lee, M J Leighton, D A Levett, B A Lewis, W M Lewis, Y R Liang, D J Lillis, D J N Limebeer, R M Lock, B N Lovett, B L Maccarthy, D G Mace, A C Macgregor, I Macgruer, B F Machin, A Macintosh, A D K Maciver, I D Mackenzie, A Mackie, T J Madden, P N Mahindroo, T S Makore, G Malcolm, J P Martin, M J Martin, P E Mason, G A Massey, A McCabe, S R McClary, R R McConnell, S J McCormick, A McDonald, R D McDonald, D P McGuinness, D W McMichael, A J McPhee, B Mehenni, D Meihley, D T P Milwright, P L Mojaphoko, L S Mok, S T Morris, A Morrison, D J Morrow, M D Motshwane, T G Murphy, T Nelson, A Nolan, E M O'Connor, W P O'Neill, F R O'Reilly, P R O'Shea, J A J Olley, E K Y Pang, L Pap, V Papez, V G Patel, A R Payne, A K Pearson, C E Pedlar, A W Penfold, M J Perry, P Perry, B Phillips, T J Phillips, L C Phin, S D Pimley, G R Plummer, V Polimac, M C K Poon, A Pote, C Prassopoulos, S R Preston, S A Price, P Pritchard, M Rashid, P J Redhead, I Ricar, O T Robbins, D L Robinson, I Robinson, S W M Robinson, M J Rogers, S Ryalls, M A Ryder, L A Sadler, A M Sayigh, J K Scrimshaw, C G Sellers, B E Simmers, P C Simson, D J Singer, I J Slater, G D Smart, P A Smith, K C Socratous, S Sofuley, R J Somerset, T F Spearing, A J C Spray, I D Stanbridge, P Staszewski, J P Stevens, R I Stevenson, C P Stewart, T C Stokes, S N Summers, C R Swan, D M Talbot, C C Tam, R Tandy, W F P Tang, K K Tay, B T Taylor, C J Teagle, B J Thomson, R J Truscott, M E C Uzochukwu, A Van Dijk, N Vijaindu, C E R Walnwright, J D Walker, M P Walsh, M Wasmuth, P J Watt, L M Wedepohl, A W K Weerakoone, P F Whelan, P W Whybrow, D Williams, R G D Williams, T Williams, K A Wilson, C T Wong, D P Wood, J F Woodford, C D Woolf, M J Worrall-Kent, A B Wotherspoon, J M Woznicki, D Wright, R C V Yearsley, C C Yeh, L S D Yeung, Y Yeung, C L F Yu.

Institution of Engineering Designers:

K K Chan, D J Keen, M P Price, I Sharlot.

Institution of Gas Engineers:

R Beavis, S A Course, C L Davies, A C M Donnelly, H Ismail, D R Jones, E Middleton, A C Perry, A D Ramage, A W Rawlinson, C K Shum, A G Smith, A P Tilley.

Institution of Mechanical Engineers:

L C Akalanne, G K Aldred, K R Allcock, S M A Alliss, C J Ambler, G S Anderson, P D Annal, R J M Atkinson, J R Austin, H R S Bahal, T G Bailey, M S Baker, S J Ball, J D Barber, N G C Barber, S J Barker, P A Barnes, P G Barry, D P Batten, W A Beers, G A Bell, I Bell, A R J Bennett, R Bingham, M D Bishop, B M Blackbourn-Jones, P J Bloore, W J Boggia, M T W Bolton, A R Bossward, D M Botham, W B Boult, P L Brennan, D A Briaris, C S Brice, G J Briggs, G H J Brown, P J Brown, R P Buky, D J Bull, M K Burrows, F G Cairns, N Canagasabai, J K Cantley, J Carlin, A G Carr, G J Carr, K F Carter, I W Cartwright, I P Cashon, D G Caunter, N J Cavan, R Chamberlain, T Y S Chan, A P Cheesman, A Cheyne, J A Chocqueel-Mangan, W C Chui, J C Clamp, J D Clark, N S Clarke, A Clifton, J R Cole, W J Coleman, J Collins, M I Colnet, T P Cook, A C Cooper, P J Cooper, S D Corbyn, D I Conie, B R Craig, S D Croker, G C Cross, R A J Culshaw, T A D'Souza, S L C Daly, E J Daniels, J M Davis, M P Davison, S W Davy, T P de Saulles, M S Denny, N T Dignan, J S Dodgson, M C Doogan, T J Dornan, N C Dorricott, J D Douglas, T J Doyle, C Drummond, D P Dudley, A D Duncan, M Dunn, K Durhani, W R H Dyson, R A Else, J P Elvidge, R P Evans, J B Eyley, D M Faulkes, A G Fendt, J E Fenton, M Ferguson, T R Fergusson, P A Finnegan, S Fleming, C B Fong, P Ford, L M Forster, I Forsyth, A M France, A Francis, S J Franklin, N J Fraser, S A Frazer, G S Fuller, P A Gardner, N F Garnett, M George, S M Gerard-Pearse, K Gibbons, I W Gillan, B R Gist, L A Glazier, D J Golden, S A Goodbody, G J Gourlay, W E Graham, J E Grayland, R E Green, N J Green, S Gregory, J Gresty, R S Groves, M W Gulland, M A Guy, N H-Tamimi, C K Hall, D L Hall, A Hamilton, M Hannam, R M Hansen, C W Harcourt, L I Harding, J C Hardman, G W Hardy, C C Harford, J G Harris, M F Harrison, C R Harwood, K J Haslam, J T Hayes, C O Heaney, S G Heard, M Hegstad, C E Heidrich, D Henery, R Hensley, M T Hides, R W Hill, H T S Ho, I C Hoare, R P Hoare, R A Hodgson, D W F Hofland, C J Hopkins, R C Horton, N J Howard, K D Hunn, H S Hunter, C M Irvine, T R H Jackson, A E Jamieson, C S Jandu, I M Jarvis, M C Jefferson, T Jelley, A M Jenkins, R Jenkins, Z M Jin, C S Job, J W Johnson, P J Johnson, P R C Johnson, R J Johnson, A D Jones, G A Jones, L Jones, R E C Jones, S O Jones, B D Jordan, E C Jorgensen, P M Kalongo, M Karam, T P Keane, P J Kearney, C M Keleghan, G Kelly, N J Kemsley, P J Kerr, A Khan, D P Kingston, S Kinsey, P Kitson, C A Knott, N K Lacey, D G Laing, C F C Lau, P K Lau, N I Laughton, J Lawson, H K Lee, K C Leung, S H K Leung, S K Leung, M W Lewis, R J Lewis, C F Lloyd, R A Lobley, C J Logue, J M Lovell, J R Lucas, D A Macgillivray, K A Macleod, K C Macpherson, A M Macsween, J Makin, D Maloney, C E Marshall, L E Marshall, S Marshall, K P Martel, G J Martin, P J Martin, A M Mascia, T J Mason, R Matshiya, P T McCarthy, C M McCleave, C A McCrone, K E McDowell, A J McFarlane, J G McMullen, W J McNaughton, D S McWilliam, F A W Meijneken, E J Merrifield, J Methley, R A Middleton, A M Milne, M G Milne, A J Minnis, D J Mitchell, H M Mok, S E Moon, C M Mooney, S R Moore, P J Morgan, J L Morris, A J Mortimer, C J Mortimer, G J Moyo, C G Murray, A R Payne, A K Pearson, C E Pedlar, A W Penfold, M J Perry, P Perry, B Phillips, T J Phillips, L C Phin, S D Pimley, G R Plummer, V Polimac, M C K Poon, A Pote, C Prassopoulos, S R Preston, S A Price, P Pritchard, M Rashid, P J Redhead, I Ricar, O T Robbins, D L Robinson, I Robinson, S W M Robinson, M J Rogers, S Ryalls, M A Ryder, L A Sadler, A M Sayigh, J K Scrimshaw, C G Sellers, B E Simmers, P C Simson, D J Singer, I J Slater, G D Smart, P A Smith, K C Socratous, S Sofuley, R J Somerset, T F Spearing, A J C Spray, I D Stanbridge, P Staszewski, J P Stevens, R I Stevenson, C P Stewart, T C Stokes, S N Summers, C R Swan, D M Talbot, C C Tam, R Tandy, W F P Tang, K K Tay, B T Taylor, C J Teagle, B J Thomson, R J Truscott, M E C Uzochukwu, A Van Dijk, N Vijaindu, C E R Walnwright, J D Walker, M P Walsh, M Wasmuth, P J Watt, L M Wedepohl, A W K Weerakoone, P F Whelan, P W Whybrow, D Williams, R G D Williams, T Williams, K A Wilson, C T Wong, D P Wood, J F Woodford, C D Woolf, M J Worrall-Kent, A B Wotherspoon, J M Woznicki, D Wright, R C V Yearsley, C C Yeh, L S D Yeung, Y Yeung, C L F Yu.

Institution of Mining Engineers:

S B Clay, D W Dixon, D A Hedley, J N Holmes, A S Jones, S R Klek, A R Ledger, S W McWilliam, A G Phillips, C Summerell.

Institution of Mining and Metallurgy:

D L Alexander, M G Armitage, O Boumendjel, C B Colbourne, M Cross, J P Flitcroft, G F Hampden-Smith, D W Holmes, J K Robson, A J S Spearing, J M Swales, M J Tiernan, J Tunnicliffe.

Institution of Nuclear Engineers:

N A J Burt, M A Treasure.

Institution of Physics & Engineering in Medicine & Biology:

D J Gow.

Institution of Plant Engineers:

A D Alsina, N J Davies, S C Leung, I J Little, A P Roxburgh.

Royal Aeronautical Society:

B J W Ballie, J W C Baker, T J Butlin, R Cansdale, T R Crabtree, P Culbert, G G Dickman, J Ferric, R A Galkowski, Z Gandhi, G B Gratton, D S Hemphill, I Horsfield, F Lam, R N Lee, T J Lee, W L Loh, P C G Mallon, K J Marriott, B Mellers, A A Nixon, B C Nzegwu, A J Owen, C A Parlier, N F Pearson, R N Powell, S A Richardson, S J Rickman, J Shepard, A Tazerout, T E Titchener, J P Waddell, C J White, G M A Williams.

Royal Institution of Naval Architects:

H G Baumann, D Brown, R G Carr, C Davies, P R Handley, C S Hu, A J Linegar, T M Linkens, P R Nichols, A J Rodgers, N E Saadi, W B Shi, N Smith, J M Townsend.

British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing:

J L Tasker.

Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers:

P H Batters, J F Baw, W A Brown, S C Cheng, G D Hunter, C G Knight, N F Lewis, Z H Rizvi, D R Shutt, M Toulon.

Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management:

M T Morrison, D J Stafford, N A Strudwick, I J Worsfold.

Institute of British Foundrymen:

W S Howson.

Institute of Energy:

T Charnock, P Connally, J H Gaston, C J Hoyle, E Zacchi.

Institute of Engineers and Technicians:

M M Alam, P A Barrett, J A Cochrane, S E Dudley, D V Gallagher, G Grey, J Grikiteris, C Gurden, M D C Hill, M D Laycock, M McHugh, R W Pearce, J R Spencer, E A Spurr, C P Steinberg, A Turchyn, J A Warbrick, R W Wenn, R W Williams, J Wright.

Institute of Highway Incorporated Engineers:

R Brimmacombe, M Clark, G R Finegan, M J Gepp, G Kerry, A S T Mitchell, R E Myhill, S Pathmanathan, D E Thomas, H Yeo, A J E Young.

Institute of Hospital Engineering:

W L Banford, M Chinnaraj, A W Dakin, P Davidson, E Fischer, F A Kelly.

Institute of Marine Engineers:

S Afzal, I Ahmad, W Ahmad, M K Beniston, R M Burrows, C P Dyson, A Etherington, W B F T Fernando, G H French, M J Gaskin, T E H Heslop, R Hughes, S R Jones, A M Khandker, A E Madden, R M Maddern, K F Murray, M A Nagi, M Nateghi, J N Oregan, S V Rages, D Ramamurthy, S O H Rizvi, A L Roy, T F Sands, M A Shaikh, D B Sinclair, G E Stillman, H K J Tang, S O Tayari, P E Usoro, P S Walker, C Y Wong, N Yeaman.

Institute of Materials:

R P Beulit, T L Smith, J D Yardy.

Institute of Measurement and Control:

M P Brettle, R J J Davidson, C W Davis, A Evans, P Hancock, T M Kinnersley, A K Marshall, D Stinchcombe, S J Woodard.

Institute of Plumbing:

D J Carroll, P A Hulme.

Institute of Quality Assurance:

L M Archer, E G Hind, P Howrihane, R L Keen, A J Williams.

Institute of Road Transport Engineers:

G J Allard, M A Amoumah, P Babbage, R Cowan, P G Ellison, R B Hawkins, T Hughes, P W Jackson, F J McCloy, T J Phillips, C H Phua, B Timson, S P Webber.

Institution of Agricultural Engineers:

R Chilvers, S D Evans, J C Salisbury, J Shewring.

Institution of Civil Engineers:

Y H Buckley.

Institution of Electronics and Electrical Incorporated Engineers:

A J Bainbridge, S M D Beardwood, C C Brooks, J H P Broughton, A J S Buchan, N J Burridge, I A Campbell, D Carr, T J M Clark, M J Collins, B R Dadd, P M Fernandes, N C J Flowerday, W E Gordon, R S Grayley, S C Halliday, K M Harvey, R Higglesden, M W Holloway, M D Horne, C C Hung, P J Hunter, D W Kinyanjui, K H Kwan, C J Lane, S C Law, A R Lee, J G Logan, K Y Mak, S Murray, N J Ord, K S Ranjit, J D Sandham, D C Singleton, R K W Smart, K C Somers, A E Somerville, R B Stevens, M E J Tidbury.

Institution of Engineering Designers:

W Collier, R J Dairy, K Ellison, S J Gold, A Harrop, T J Lehane, P M Mason, A R Smith, M D Tayler, W B Vaughan.

Institution of Gas Engineers:

P R Bailey, P Baison, N J Barclay, L Cawdron, J R Delmaine, A D Down, K Ghaemian, R C Goodayle, G W Horne, P Jackson, I B Jones, D King, M R McDonald, K C Montgomery, L A Murphy, N J Ollerenshaw, B J Purl, C Skinner, K Warburton.

Institution of Incorporated Executive Engineers:

W Abnett, D M Bentley, A L Bommer, M Bullen, J Carey, A G Clark, N J Dartnell, S J Gallagher, P R Hanlon, C M J Harling, P G Hirst, R King, C W Law, D Mountjoy, A Murfin, R Shanmuganathan.

Institution of Lighting Engineers:

J R Bate, G Baxter, R A Borland, J Bowers, T J Cramer, I Crowther, R Eames, S P Empson, I P Evans, P J McElhinney, I R Moore, N S Roberts, A M Stephens, P A Voyez, D Wilson, S A Wright.

Institution of Mechanical Incorporated Engineers:

A Agius, L W Allsop, T D M Baker, G Barber, I R Barker, K J Berry, R Clarence, C Cocliff, P J Crabtree, P R Davies, S Dawson, M W Eade, S R Evans, K C Fossati, B D Giles, I S Griffiths, D N Hastings, W J Holder, W D Hunt, G A Jones, W T Kent, M Kirsopp, S M Lister, J L Mason, D L McAulay, S A Morris, C L Moss, S P Noble, G Paterson, J M Roden, A M Rope, S J Rowe, N G Saville, S W Shingler, C Skinner, D E Smith, N D Smith, M A Sudol, K Taylor, K R Walker, J Welsh, R G Wilkie, W Wishart, I G Wood.

Institution of Mining Engineers:

J C Hewitt, C G Littlefield, D J Rice.

Institution of Nuclear Engineers:

R M Cardy, R E James.

Institution of Plant Engineers:

M Beckett, D Fenech, D H Fotheringham, S J Hiley, J G Holmes, D Jeremiah, N F Macleod, P McCann, D Phipps, M D Quinn, C A Solman.

Institution of Water Officers:

P L Boore, K Dennison, G Kelly.

Royal Aeronautical Society:

D Andrews, P J Battah, S E Bennell, G J Bootle, K R Hann, M J Harrison, C D Hudson, K Johnston, K Lees, R U Mahamoor, J Russell, S J Smith, P H Stringer, M J Williams.

Royal Institution of Naval Architects:

T A Lipington.

Welding Institute:

J T Connor, K Dixon, G G Lavelle, B K Taylor.

Engineering Technicians

The Council announces that the following, in membership of the appropriate engineering institution, have qualified as Engineering Technicians entitling them to use the designatory letters EngTech after their names:

British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing:

M E Austin.

Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers:

D G Cornwell, F W Dixon, I D King, K R Taylor.

Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management:

B M Adams.

Institute of British Foundrymen:

B W Trevis.

Institute of Engineers and Technicians:

B N Arnill, V S Babu, J L Baker, K Barker, R A Berridge, J R Collinson, G C Crowle, D R Duggan, C J Goodyear, M Kot, D R Moore, M-R Oakley, J B Ojo, S Pentland, D J Read, C B Robinson, M C Smith, K A Stout, G J Walker, D L Watkins.

Institute of Highway Incorporated Engineers:

P G C Edwards, A Jones, E K Knox, D P Murden, P Phillips, P G Smith, D J Taplin.

Institute of Hospital Engineering:

B L Jones, P Nadin, C J Oates, C Robinson.

Institute of Marine Engineers:

S Das, B P Jayasinha, A S Jones, A T Larsen, A J McNally.

Institute of Measurement and Control:

M Williamson.

Institute of Plumbing:

E J Bamber, J W Boggis, R D Burns, A Callaby, K Y P Chau, J Garrad, A J Golightly, S M A Kwok, M A Martin, M May, R B Russell, G E Sharpe, S P Wat, J P W Wong.

Institute of Road Transport Engineers:

N R Allen, C Lang, J P Atkinson, N J Babcock, A P Bowler, D Charlton, J P Clarence, S W Cockerham, A R Cope, R G Dixon, R F Dunne, M B Fallon, E A Fallows, S M Fenton, J P Floyd, G R Foster, P R Glennie, S A Green, K Harrison, M J Harvey, G M Hooper, T J Johns, H H Johnston, W Jones, R A King, S Labbert, Z Z A Lathiff, P Lymbouird, N K Martlew, J McCone, R McDougal, G McNoughter, G E Orme, C M Parsons, R H A Patell, G W Peters, A Platt, J Ponsillo, H Reader, G P Revill, A D Rooke, D Rothwell, R F Rough, D J Slowly, N J Smillie, R J Smith, P A Stewart, K J Trew, P J Tucker, P J Vardy, A J Ware, M J Whetnall, S R Yandell.

Institution of Civil Engineers:

V S H Abruzzo, P D Coe, N J R Wilson.

Institution of Electronics and Electrical Incorporated Engineers:

A J Alexander, D J Anderson, I A Anderson, P D A Andrews, S N Archer, D Askew, A N Austin, G P Barnes, P R Barnfield, S R Berry, T A Best, J D Black, J R Blake, T A Bowditch, S R Bradbury, M G Brady, B M Braidley, K P Brammer, P D Brandon, C J L Brown, G Brownlie, J F Bryant, J J Burch, A E Charlton, J G Cook, M J Cook, J B Cope, M W H Craig, B K Cullen, I Daffin, J W Dalo, R Dance, D A Darby, A Davies, P J Dean, I C Demonte, J W Douglas, S K Dowsett, D J Dykes, G N Ekwonnah, P M Elliss, A G Ervine, S W Evans, N G Eve, E A Fitzsimons, N J French, A J Glennie, S T Gray, A C Greenleaf, P A Griffin, W W Harrison, K A Hawkes, S D Heap, D I Hinchcliffe, A S Hodge, J R Hourihane, C H G Hull, P Ive, D C Jewiss, J C Jordan, K M Joyce, M L Kelman, R Khosla, R L Lewis, K Livesey, S D Lock, G P Maxwell, I McGarva, G M McGillivray, J J McGrath, G McReadie, E G Monk, R E Mountjoy-Row, A T Mudoni, K O Neale, C Needham, D N Nkachi, M P E Pagano, S C Parry, P F Payne, K Pickering, F Planinic, G Pratt, C Prentice, D G Prichard, S A Reed, C F Robinson, J P Ross, S P Rutter, M D Ryan, N P Scott, W Sherriff, N Shipley, M W Smith, P Smith, M F Smithen, J F Stewart, T M Stone, D J Taplin, D A Taylor, W A Turnbull, C A Vincett, D J Warren, D Weeks, C J White, D M Wright.

Institution of Engineering Designers:

D J Brawn, J R Dilworth, A P Glaves, T J Rowland, S J Vaughan.

Institution of Gas Engineers:

K Booth, A J Brown, C W Campbell, A D Durbridge, G C Gilltrap, P I Hampton, S Hancock, M J Heads, M A Leyland, J R Milne, S B O'Brien, C D Thompson, J W Walker, M D Wild, D A Willison.

Institution of Incorporated Executive Engineers:

P E Kilduff, P A Wells.

Institution of Lighting Engineers:

F W Duffy, G A Hook, D Knights, R Mulley.

Institution of Mechanical Incorporated Engineers:

J Butete, C Chitumba, A Clark, P J Clements, R H Collins, K Ebburs, M A Foakes, M J Foster, A Furze, M R Griffiths, N M Hall, J P Hancock, R I Holdsworth, S Holgate, B C Hopgood, M M Khonat, P J Lawrence, R D McLauchlin, D S Miles, S A Robinson, P G Rogers, L R Skilton.

Institution of Mining Engineers:

G J Corbett.

Institution of Plant Engineers:

P J Cross, D French, T E Jones.

Institution of Water Officers:

C R Macadam.

Royal Aeronautical Society:

B P Barker, G Cope, B Dzanya, P R Evans, P J Hanna, M J Hodges, G B Wilkie.

Royal Institution of Naval Architects:

L R Foster, J P Heath.

Welding Institute:

R R Hall, P H McWilliams, J R Taylor.

Incorporated Engineers

The Council announces that the following, in membership of the appropriate engineering institution, have qualified as Incorporated Engineers entitling them to use the designatory letters I Eng after their names:

British Computer Society:

H Aumeed, D J Bennison, P M Bloomfield, H M Boughton, T W Etherington, I S Finnie, Y F Shum, D P Tong, D W Wright.



The Engineering Council's 1995 Environment Award went to Stephen Maxwell, Chartered Engineer, right, and Ian Barnard, from Cleveland Potash Ltd, Saltburn. Their project ensures that ship loading chutes discharge bulk so that no dust escapes.



Invitation to a private view

Times readers are invited to a private view of *In Trust for the Nation* — an exhibition of paintings from National Trust Houses — at the National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London on Tuesday, December 5 from 6.30pm-8.30pm.

In Trust for the Nation marks the celebration of the National Trust's Centenary and brings together, for the first time, more than 90 of the finest paintings displayed in National Trust Houses. The exhibition reflects the British love of landscape and provides a fascinating glimpse of the treasures still to be seen in our great country houses.

Invitations to the private view cost £10 each and include a glass of Mouton Cadet vintage Bordeaux from Baron Philippe de Rothschild. Readers will also receive a free National Trust Centenary souvenir brochure, a 10% discount on purchases from the exhibition sales counter and a recorded tour at a special rate of £2.50.

As the number of places is limited, coupons (right) should arrive by Thursday, November, 30. You can reserve tickets by calling 0171-226 7450 between 9.30am-6pm Mon-Fri (credit cards are not accepted).

THE NATIONAL GALLERY

IN TRUST FOR THE NATION APPLICATION FORM

Please send me ..... invitation(s) at £10 each for *The Times*/National Gallery Private View on December 5, 1995 from 6.30pm-8.30pm.

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DAYTIME PHONE NO: .....

I enclose my cheque made payable to Times Newspapers Ltd.

Value £ ..... Cheque Number .....

(Please write your name and address on the back of the cheque)

Please post coupon and remittance to arrive by Thursday, 30 November to:

The Times/National Gallery Private View, THP, 45 Islington Park Street, London N1 1QB

Tel: 0171-226 7450

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Ticket Number: ..... Date Sent: .....

THE ENGINEERING COUNCIL

The Engineering Council congratulates all those who have received its awards today. The Council is an independent body which has 290,000 engineers and technicians on its register, and 210 leading companies and organisations affiliated to it. It sets the standards for education, training and experience leading to the award of its titles of Chartered Engineer (CEng), Incorporated Engineer (IEng) and Engineering Technician (EngTech).

For more information about the Council write to:

Public Affairs,
The Engineering Council,
10 Maltravers Street,
London WC2R 3ER.

Osborne sought for Master Oats

By Julian Muscat

THE paucity of runners to have blighted the National Hunt season will again be in evidence in the showpiece races at Sandown and Chepstow on Saturday.

At the latter venue, the Rehearsal Handicap Chase, featuring the reappearance of the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, Master Oats, was yesterday reopened after just five horses were entered at the five-day stage.

Although the identities of the entrants were not published, it emerged that Couldnt Be Better is not among them. And the mandatory reopening of the race has further hampered Kim Bailey's efforts to find a suitable jockey for Master Oats.

With Richard Dunwoody committed to ride Sound Man at Sandown, Bailey has approached Jamie Osborne, but he had given an undertaking to ride Viking Flagship at Sandown on the same day. Viking Flagship's owner, Graham Roach, is amenable to Bailey's calling, but David Nicholson, who trains the horse, said last night the development was news to him: "Jamie Osborne is engaged to ride Viking Flagship at this moment in time. As far as I'm concerned I've booked him to ride the horse on Saturday."

Just as trainers have fought shy of taking on Master Oats at Chepstow, the same is true of the Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown. Viking Flagship and Sound Man are committed to the two-mile contest; only four others stood their ground at yesterday's forfeit stage. Two of them — Remittance Man and Travado — are trained by Nicky Henderson and are doubtful runners.

Henderson's reluctance to start Travado on worse than good ground has been well documented, while Remittance Man's preferred target is the Crowngap Construction Handicap Chase at Sandown the previous day. The scenario also applies to Storm Alert, a stablemate of Viking Flagship. On a more upbeat note, the William Hill Handicap Hurdle on the same card has attracted a 25-strong entry.

Meanwhile, Couldnt Be Better's non-participation came after his trainer, Charlie Brooks, discussed the option with the impressive Hennessy winner's connections. "The owner was not keen on the idea so we will now look at the Tripleprint Gold Cup a week on Saturday or the Betterware Cup on December 16," Brooks said.

Jodami, who bypassed the Hennessy for easier pickings, duly landed odds of 9-2 on in the Hinchliffe Champion Chase at Kelso yesterday. But the ten-year-old prevailed only narrowly in a tight finish with Boarding School, who raced from 37lb out of the handicap. Bookmakers were unimpressed by Jodami's showing: William Hill extended the former Cheltenham Gold Cup winner's odds by two points, to 12-1, for the 1996 renewal.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's Budget speech today will be closely monitored by members of the racing and bookmaking industries, both of which have lobbied hard recently for a reduction in general betting duty. Horserace betting turnover has declined dramatically since the introduction of the National Lottery 12 months ago.

Prompted by Sir John Sparrow, chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board, representatives of two industries approached the Paymaster General last month with proposals for a 2.75 per cent cut in betting duty, at present levied at 7.75 per cent.

Bookmakers want any reduction of two per cent or less to be passed directly to the punter through cuts in the disingeniously-labelled betting tax, charged by bookmakers at ten per cent. The Levy Board has already warned that the Chancellor's failure to lower betting duty would force it to make swingeing cuts in racing's finances next year.

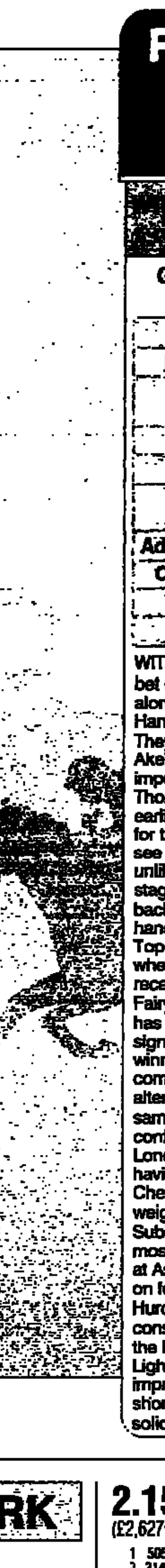
JULIAN HERBERT



Master Oats, the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, makes his seasonal reappearance at Chepstow on Saturday

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market



WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP HURDLE

GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES
William Hill

Bimsey	3-1	Stompin	20-1
Eskimo Nel	8-1	Thinking Twice	20-1
Sublime Fellow	8-1	White Willow	20-1
Top Cees	10-1	Blair Castle	25-1
Squire Silk	11-1	Bookcase	25-1
Lonesome Train	12-1	Golden Arrow	25-1
Admirals Well	14-1	Pridwell	25-1
Chiefs Song	14-1	Golden Hello	33-1
Albemine	20-1	Statajack	33-1
Putty Road	20-1		

WITH the other major bookmakers refusing to bet on the race until tomorrow, the sponsors are alone in offering prices on the William Hill Handicap Hurdle at Sandown Park on Saturday. They are taking no chances with the Reg Akehurst-trained Bimsey, who was most impressive when beating subsequent winner Thornton Gate on his reappearance at Aintree earlier this month. He has recently been backed for the Champion Hurdle, so it is no surprise to see him installed the 3-1 favourite, but he is unlikely to be able to dominate in the early stages as he did that day, and cannot be backed at such a short price in this competitive handicap.

Top weight Putty Road found this trip too sharp when beaten by Chief's Song at Cheltenham recently and is more likely to travel to Fairyhouse at the weekend, while Eskimo Nel has won her last three starts, but takes a significant step up in class here. Top Cees, winner of the Chester Cup on the Flat, would come into the reckoning if lining up, but has an alternative engagement over a longer trip on the same card and cannot be backed until confirmed a certain runner.

Lonesome Train makes some appeal at 12-1, having won the Murphy's Handicap Hurdle at Cheltenham in good style, but an 8lb rise in the weights may just prove too much.

Sublime Fellow travelled supremely well for most of the race when runner-up to Non Vintage at Ascot 11 days ago. He is likely to have come on for that run — ironically in the Ladbroke Trial Hurdle — and that form was given a considerable boost by Non Vintages fine run in the Fighting Fifth at Newcastle on Saturday. Lightly raced and open to plenty of improvement, **SUBLIME FELLOW** will surely be shorter than 8-1 come Saturday and rates a solid wager.

Milestones for Marino cannot hide Dolphins distress

By Stuart Jones

PERSONAL glory continues to be entwined with collective failure for Dan Marino. Three times this season he has broken National Football League (NFL) quarterback records, and on each occasion his feat has been overshadowed by the defeat of his team, the Miami Dolphins.

The combination has become particularly damaging for Don Shula. No coach in the history of the NFL has been more successful but local criticism is mounting and many followers believe that, at 65, this season should be his last.

It may end earlier than usual. The Dolphins, so strengthened before the start that they were regarded as one of the Super Bowl favourites, are in danger of not qualifying for the play-offs. Their loss against Indianapolis Colts on Sunday was their third in a row and their sixth overall.

Shula offered no excuses. "We played poorly from the start," he said. "It's very mystifying and I am as disappointed and upset as I can get." Marino, in spite of surpassing Fran Tarkenton's total of 342 touchdown passes, was almost as unhappy.

"I'm proud of the record and I'm trying to enjoy it as much as I can," he said, "but that was a key divisional game." His own celebrations came before the interval, with a six-yard toss to Keith Byars, and he later threw two more touchdown passes.

Jim Harbaugh, the Colts quarterback, though, can justifiably claim to have been the more efficient. He leads the league in two statistics (rating and yards-per-attempt), is third in two others and fourth in another.

With three touchdown passes of his own before the interval, he ran for another to establish a commanding lead. The Colts won 36-28 to close to within one game of the Buffalo Bills, beaten by the New England Patriots but still the leaders of the American Conference eastern division.

Shula declined to address demands for him to step down. "You win as a team," he said, "and you lose as a team." Wayne Hulzenga, the owner of the Dolphins, preferred to maintain a sense of optimism. "I still believe we can make it this year," he said.

Brett Favre has more chance of making it with the Green Bay Packers and, according to Sam Wyche, his coach, he has been more prominent than either Marino or Harbaugh. "He is the hottest quarterback in the NFL right now," Wyche said.

Favre has thrown more touchdown passes, 28, than anyone else this season. He also guided the Packers to victory over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers but consider the contrasting fortunes of their quarterback. The last touchdown pass launched by Trent Dilfer was in September.

Thurman Thomas was another to break a record, albeit one that belonged privately to the Bills. Their prime running back, he crossed from one yard to score his 71st touchdown for the club to overtake their most famous, and now infamous, representative, O. J. Simpson.

The Arizona Cardinals overcame the Atlanta Falcons but were victims of a boycott. Many of their followers, angered by reports that the club is considering moving to Los Angeles, stayed away. The crowd was a comparatively paltry 35,147.

DETAILS

RESULTS: Chicago 27 New York Giants 24; New England 35 Buffalo 25; Philadelphia 14 Washington 7; Indianapolis 36 Miami 28; Green Bay 35 Tampa Bay 13; Cincinnati 17 Jacksonville 13; Pittsburgh 20 Cleveland 17; San Francisco 41 St Louis 13; New York Jets 16 Seattle 10; Houston 42 Denver 33; Arizona 40 Atlanta 37 (OT); New Orleans 34 Carolina 26

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	PF	PA
Eastern division					
Buffalo	8	4	0	248	233
Indianapolis	7	5	0	246	238
Miami	6	6	0	303	261
New England	5	7	0	212	267
NY Jets	3	9	0	179	295
Central division					
Pittsburgh	8	4	0	297	259
Cincinnati	5	7	0	286	290
Houston	5	7	0	273	256
Cleveland	4	8	0	218	264
Jacksonville	3	9	0	197	267
Western division					
Kansas City	10	2	0	277	185
Oakland	8	3	0	271	187
Denver	6	6	0	282	243
Seattle	5	7	0	259	289
San Diego	4	7	0	196	238

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	PF	PA
Eastern division					
Dallas	10	2	0	343	214
Philadelphia	8	4	0	249	255
Arizona	4	8	0	211	326
NY Giants	3	9	0	223	273
Washington	3	9	0	234	282
Central division					
Green Bay	8	4	0	312	249
Chicago	7	5	0	324	293
Detroit	6	6	0	304	302
Minnesota	6	6	0	300	293
Tampa Bay	6	6	0	189	226
Western division					
San Francisco	8	4	0	335	173
Atlanta	7	5	0	278	266
St Louis	6	6	0	214	277
Carolina	5	7	0	228	247
New Orleans	5	7	0	239	278

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

12.30 Turnpole
1.00 South Westerly
1.30 Sunderland Echo
2.00 Political Tower
2.30 **STAR RAGE** (nap)
3.00 Carson City
3.30 Cittadino

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
1.30 **SUNDERLAND ECHO.**

GOING: GOOD — SIS

12.30 WILLINGTON NOVICES HURDLE (£2,271: 2m) (18 runners)

101 5221-40 GRANDMAN 19 (S) (Mrs E Milligan) D Moffatt 4-11-7 ... D J Moffatt 86
102 214-21 TOM BRODIE 24 (CD,F,S) (Mrs M Bird) J Howard Johnson 5-11-7 ... J F Titley 75
103 1 TURNPOLE 14 (D,G) (W Williams) Mrs M Reveley 4-11-7 ... P Niven 93
104 22-11 BEGGARS BANQUET 24 (F) (E Ruddock) P Beaumont 5-11-0 ... R Supple –
105 BLAZE OF OAK 62F (E Hayward) J Bradley 4-11-0 ... Guy Lewis (3) –
106 CAMPAIGN 25F (Spectrum) M Hammond 4-11-0 ... Mr C Bonner (3) –
107 3 DURANO 55 (C Stevens) M H Easterby 4-11-0 ... L Wyer 99
108 0 FRYUP SATELLITE 8 (J Leas) Mrs J Brown 4-11-0 ... E Callaghan 83
109 GREEK GOLD 12F (Wetherby Racing Bureau Plc) D Nicholls 6-11-0 ... S Mason –
110 60- IN A MOMENT 225F (Mrs E Dosser) T Barron 4-11-0 ... B Harding (3) 86
111 JARROW 17F (H Gething) Mrs A Naughton 4-11-0 ... M Foster –
112 0 LEAP IN THE DARK 14 (Mrs D Morris) Miss L Siddall 6-11-0 ... W Marston –
113 P- LUCKER 283 (J Adams) D Eddy 8-11-0 ... B Storey –
114 2P/P-8 NETHERBY SAID 18 (Mrs S Sunter) B Wilkinson 5-11-0 ... N Bentley –
115 0-0 NICK ROSS 45 (R Brewis) R Brewis 4-11-0 ... G Harker –
116 PENDOLINO 54F (I Booth) M Britain 4-11-0 ... D Wilkinson –
117 0/5104- TARA RAMBLER 221 (G) (J Hanson) Miss S Hall 6-11-0 ... P Carberry 91
118 TROY'S DREAM 509F (T Hemmings) Mrs S Smith 4-11-0 ... R Guest –

BETTING: 2-1 Turnpole, 5-1 Beggars Banquet, 6-1 Tom Brodie, 7-1 Durano, 10-1 Tara Rambler, Grandman, 16-1 Blaze Of Oak, Greek Gold, 20-1 others.

1994: MEETING ABANDONED BECAUSE OF FOG

FORM FOCUS

GRANDMAN best recent effort beat Cadeaux Premiere 13l in novice hurdle at Cartmel (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft). TOM BRODIE beat Salvo 3l in 3-runner novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m, firm). TURNPOLE beat Buttercup Joe 7l in 13-runner novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good). BEGGARS BANQUET beat Swarl 1¾l in 8-runner National Hunt Flat race at Uttoxeter (2m, good to firm). DURANO 7¾l 3rd of 12 to Star Of David in novice hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 3f 110yd, good). IN A MOMENT best recent effort 8¾l 6th of 15 to Colossus Of Roads in maiden hurdle at Edinburgh (2m, good). TARA RAMBLER best recent effort beat Mandical 1l in 14-runner National Hunt Flat race at Southwell (AW, 2m). TROY'S DREAM best recent effort on flat beat Waqood 2½l in 7-runner maiden at Beverley (1m 4f, good to firm).
Selection: TURNPOLE

1.00 LEVY BOARD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,973: 3m) (9 runners)

201 24-4111 SOUTH WESTERLY 24 (CD,F,G) (W Strawson) Mrs M Reveley 7-12-0 ... G Lee 98
202 0000/0-1 BORRISMORE FLASH 10 (D,F) (L Bowles) J Bradley 7-11-7 ... G Hogan 90
203 43F40/4 DASHMAR 6 (J Moore) J Moore 8-10-8 ... B Harding 96
204 R21435 KING OF THE HORSE 6 (F) (A Crook) W Storey 4-10-5 ... J Supple 97
205 F0PP-02 FOREVER SILVER 10 (B) (D Wright) L Lungo 5-10-3 ... F Perratt 99
206 3/0004/ AURORA LAD 665 (M Hammond) M Hammond 8-10-0 ... R Burns (5) –
207 55-PP61 COPPERHURST 18 (G) (W Kemp) W Kemp 4-10-0 ... G Cahill 93
208 00P0-4 WILLERFOSS 10 (M Saunders) B Rothwell 5-10-0 ... B Grattan (3) 75
209 000-4 KINGS MINSTRAL 22 (Exors of Mr R Lamb) D Lamb 5-10-0 ... A Manners (5) 84

Long handicap: Copperhurst 9-13, Willerfoss 9-7, Kings Minstral 9-0

BETTING: 2-1 South Westerly, 9-2 Dashmar, 5-1 King Of The Horse, 7-1 Borrismore Flash, Forever Silver, 8-1 Aurora Lad, Copperhurst, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

SOUTH WESTERLY beat Tough Test 9l in 3-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance (firm). BORRISMORE FLASH beat Crazy Horse Dancer 7l in 3-runner selling handicap hurdle at Nottingham (3m 110yd, good to firm). DASHMAR 6½l 4th of 13 to Corston Rambo in novice handicap hurdle at Hexham (2m 4f 110yd, good) with KING OF THWE HORSE (4lb better off) 3l 5th. FOREVER SILVER 2½l 2nd of 10 to Marsden Rock in maiden hurdle at Catterick (2m 3f, good to firm). AURORA LAD 9l 4th of 17 to All's Alibi in novice hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft) 1994. COPPERHURST beat Nodform Wonder 1l in 9-runner conditions handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m 4f, good) with KING OF THE HORSE (12lb better off) 5l 3rd. KINGS MINSTRAL 18l 4th of 6 to Mister Muddypaws in novice hurdle at Carlisle (3m 110yd, good to firm).
Selection: DASHMAR

1.30 SENDRIG CONSTRUCTION & NEWCASTLE FLOORING NOVICES HURDLE (£2,229: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

301 642405/ BIRD WATCHER 304P (G) (Mrs E Newbould) Mrs J Brown 5-11-0 E Callaghan (7) –
302 13- BOLD FOUNTAIN 220 (G) (J Robson) G Moore 4-11-0 ... N Bentley –
303 DAVID'S WAY (M Hammond) M Hammond 6-11-0 ... R Burns (7) –
304 0414-UF DONOVANS REEF 45 (F,S) (Mrs L Marshall) Mrs L Marshall 9-11-0 –G Lee (3) –
305 B60 DON'T TELL TOM 48 (J Wade) J Wade 5-11-0 ... K Jones –
306 ENVIRONMENTAL LAW 456F (Miss L McKeown) W McKeown 4-11-0 G Cahill (7) –
307 1213-5 GO-INFORMAL 18 (F,S) (R Marshall) J Jefferson 4-11-0 ... M Dwyer 89
308 01- MONYMAN 225 (F) (T Hemmings) M Hammond 5-11-0 ... Mr C Bonner (3) –
309 0236F6/ MORNING IN MAY 490 (M Hutchinson) J Howard Johnson 7-11-0 ... J F Titley –
310 0P- POLAR GALE 222 (J Stoddart) W Reed 6-11-0 ... B Harding (3) –
311 2-0 SHYNON 8 (Mrs F Bentley) W Barker 5-11-0 ... L Wyer 88
312 2 SUNDERLAND ECHO 18 (Northeast Press Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-0 P Niven 99
313 0-0 EARLY SUNRISE 18 (R McDonald) R McDonald 4-10-9 ... B Storey –

BETTING: 9-4 Sunderland Echo, 3-1 Go-Informal, 5-1 Bold Fountain, 11-2 Morning In May, 8-1 Monyman, 10-1 David's Way, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

BIRD WATCHER beat Pure Madness 25l in 10-runner maiden open at Witton Castle (3m, good). BOLD FOUNTAIN beat Tillyboy 1¼l in 18-runner National Hunt Flat race at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good) on penultimate start. DONAVANS REEF best recent effort 23l 4th of 7 to Unor in amateur riders' hunter chase at Perth (3m, good). GO-INFORMAL best recent effort beat Chopwell Curtains 1l in National Hunt Flat race at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good to firm). MONYMAN beat Classic Crest 1¾l in 16-runner National Hunt Flat race at Carlisle (2m 1f, firm). MORNING IN MAY 18½l 6th of 24 to Sligo in maiden hurdle at Galway (2m, good). SHYNON 10l 2nd of 15 to Fox Sparrow in novice hurdle at Catterick (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start. SUNDERLAND ECHO 7l 2nd of 14 to Master Beveled in maiden hurdle at Ayr (2m, good) with GO-INFORMAL 9¼l 5th and EARLY SUNRISE 53l 13th.
Selection: SUNDERLAND ECHO (nap)

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.00 SHIREMOOR HANDICAP CHASE (£4,297: 2m 110yd) (4 runners)

401 4P64-31 BELSTONE FOX 14 (D,G,S) (Mrs R Stan) D Nicholson 10-12-0 ... W Marston 94
402 001155- ONE FOR THE POT 215 (CD,F,G,S) (P Dawes) Mrs A Naughton 10-11-5 J Supple (3) 95
403 22122-1 POLITICAL TOWER 17 (D,G,S) (G Nixon) R Nixon 8-11-3 ... P Niven 96
404 3442-41 RODEO STAR 10 (B,D,F,G,S) (J Bradbury) N Tinkler 9-10-11 ... G McCourt 99

BETTING: 6-4 Belstone Fox, 2-1 Political Tower, 5-2 Rodeo Star, 6-1 One For The Pot

FORM FOCUS

BELSTONE FOX beat Snitton Lane 11l in 3-runner handicap chase at Wetherby (2m, good). ONE FOR THE POT best recent effort beat POLITICAL TOWER (4lb worse off) 2l in 5-runner amateur riders' handicap chase over course and distance (good to firm). POLITICAL TOWER beat Regal Romper 2l in 7-runner handicap chase at Ayr (3m, good) with RODEO STAR (4lb better off) 1¾l 4th. RODEO STAR 2½l 2nd of 5 to Precipice Run in handicap chase at Perth (2m 4f 110yd, good).
Selection: RODEO STAR

2.30 ALLIANCE & LEICESTER INTRODUCER HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,113: 2m) (7 runners)

501 26045-1 DEVILRY 17 (D,G,S) (R Johnson) G Moore 5-12-0 ... J Callaghan 98
502 300/3-31 STAR RAGE 8 (D,F) (J David Abell) J L Harris 5-11-13 (5ex) ... A S Smith 90
503 02013-4 TWICE A NIGHT 32 (D,F) (All In the Mind) D Nicholson 6-11-11 ... W Marston 93
504 120F4-6 CHANTRY BEATH 17 (D,F) (Racegoers Club Spigot Lodge) C Thornton 4-11-2 D Wilkinson 86
505 1-U410 IZZA 5 (D,G) (D Batey) W Storey 4-11-0 ... J Supple (3) 99
506 2/100/0 MARTINI EXECUTIVE 17 (B,D,F) (Miss A Smith) B Wilkinson 7-10-11 ... N Bentley –
507 52544F/ SAFARI PARK 547 (F) (R Bethell) W Bethell 6-10-10 ... M Dwyer –

BETTING: 2-1 Star Rage, 9-4 Devilry, 7-2 Twice A Night, 7-1 Chantry Beath, 12-1 Izza, 20-1 Martini Executive, 25-1 Safari Park.

FORM FOCUS

DEVILRY beat Steadfast Elite ½l in 12-runner handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m, good) with CHANTRY BEATH (11lb better off) 24½l 6th and MARTINI EXECUTIVE (12lb better off) 4½l 9th. STAR RAGE beat Kinnarortyra Girl 5l in 21-runner novice hurdle at Catterick (2m, good to firm). TWICE A NIGHT 17¼l 4th of 10 to Treceolo in handicap hurdle at Bangor (2m 1f, good). IZZA beat Recluse 11l in 10-runner novice handicap hurdle at Kelso (2m 110yd, good) on penultimate start. SAFARI PARK 18½l 4th of 9 to Bahrain Queen in handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 3f 110yd, good) on penultimate start, May 1994.
Selection: DEVILRY

3.00 MARDEN NOVICES CHASE (£2,723: 3m) (10 runners)

601 3231F-U LIE DETECTOR 17 (D,F,G) (R Green) C Parker 7-11-7 ... D Parker (3) 98
602 4U-P4U4 ANOTHER NICK 19 (F) (J Hubbuck) J Hubbock 9-11-0 ... B Harding (3) 82
603 20/P02-3 CARSON CITY 18 (G) (J L Fish Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-0 ... P Niven 95
604 152236- D'ARBLAY STREET 252 (B,S) (Green For Lock) W Kemp 6-11-0 ... B Storey –
605 4/635-63 MONYMOSS 14 (T Hemmings) Mrs S Smith 6-11-0 ... R Guest 80
606 023-FR0 MORE JOY 6 (Mrs L Marshall) Mrs L Marshall 7-11-0 ... Mr K Whelan (5) 87
607 F26-450 THE ENERGISER 31 (Exors of Mr R Lamb) D Lamb 9-11-0 ... A Manners (7) 86
608 PF- YOUNG DUBLINER 204P (G) (J Cooper) Mrs J Brown 6-11-0 ... M Dwyer –
609 P5643P- SAGARO BELLE 195 (A Crow) A Crow 9-10-9 ... P Waggott 86
610 P/21312- QUIET MISTRESS 211 (S) (R Bethell) W Bethell 5-10-7 ... A S Smith 99

BETTING: 2-1 Carson City, 11-4 Lie Detector, 4-1 Monymoss, 9-2 Quiet Mistress, 10-1 Young Dubliner, 16-1 Sagaro Belle, 20-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

LIE DETECTOR beat Powder Boy 3½l in 10-runner handicap chase at Southwell (3m 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start last term. ANOTHER NICK 47l 4th of 5 to Allimac Nomis in amateur riders' novice handicap chase at Kelso (2m 1f, good). CARSON CITY neck and 8l 3rd of 8 to Stormy Coral in novice handicap chase at Ayr (2m 4f, good). MONYMOSS 23¼l 3rd of 4 to Maleel in novice chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good). YOUNG DUBLINER beat Hotcel Brig 10l in 15-runner maiden open at Witton Castle (3m, good) SAGARO BELLE 13l and neck 3rd of 6 to Donna Del Lago in novice handicap chase at Uttoxeter (2m 5f, good to firm) on penultimate start. QUIET MISTRESS beat Dutch Blues short-head in 12-runner conditional jockeys' selling handicap hurdle at Hexham (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) on penultimate start.
Selection: CARSON CITY

3.30 HOWDEN STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,308: 2m) (16 runners)

1 1-6 CITTADINO 17 (BF,G) (D Dennison) C Thornton 5-11-11 ... E Callaghan (7) –
2 1 QATTARA 17 (G) (W Mckeown) W McKeown 5-11-11 ... A Stanford –
3 4- CURRENT MONY 225 (T Hemmings) M Hammond 4-11-4 ... Mr C Bonner (3) –
4 0-P DANCER DICKINS 6 (G Eubank) T Cuthbert 4-11-4 ... Carol Cuthbert –
5 EUPHORIC ILLUSION (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 4-11-4 ... R Guest –
6 EVEN CLOSE (R Dalton) T Carr 5-11-4 ... D Towler (7) –
7 3 GRAND CRU 17 (Dr G Meredith) Mrs M Reveley 4-11-4 ... R Hodge –
8 0- KILLBALLY BOY 214 (G Brown) J Howard Johnson 5-11-4 ... P Carberry –
9 3-5 PAPPA CHARLIE 17 (R Green) C Parker 4-11-4 ... D Parker (3) –
10 SEVERN MILL (E Hayward) J Bradley 4-11-4 ... Guy Lewis (3) –
11 TULLYMURRY TOFF (J Wilson) J Jefferson 4-11-4 ... M Newton (7) –
12 UK HYGIENE (A Peake) M Hammond 5-11-4 ... R Burns (7) –
13 042- UNCLE MOUSE 200 (Miss S Hall) Miss S Hall 4-11-4 ... D Thomas (7) –
14 VILPRANO (The Wiprano Partnership) D Moffatt 4-11-4 ... D J Moffatt –
15 ANCRE VALLEY (C Chapman) R Whitaker 6-10-13 ... Mr S Swiers –
16 ROSE'S DOUBLE (Mrs A Eubank) A Eubank 5-10-13 ... Mr R Hale –

BETTING: 9-2 Qattara, 5-1 Pappa Charlie, Grand Cru, 6-1 Cittadino, 7-1 Uncle Mouse, 10-1 Current Mony, 12-1 Uk Hygiene, 20-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

CITTADINO beat Uncle Keany 3l in 16-runner National Hunt Flat race at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good) on penultimate start. QATTARA beat Decent Penny 3½l in 18-runner National Hunt Flat race at Ayr (2m, good) with GRAND CRU (7lb better off) 6l 3rd, PAPPA CHARLIE (7lb better off) 1¼l and neck 5th and CITTADINO (7lb better off) ½l 6th. CURRENT MONY 15l 4th of 15 to Festive Lassie in National Hunt Flat race at Market Rasen (1m 5f 110yd, good to firm). KILLBALLY BOY 46l 9th of 13 to Tillyboy in National Hunt Flat race at Perth (2m 110yd, good). UNCLE MOUSE 3l 2nd of 15 to Direct Route in National Hunt Flat race at Market Rasen (1m 5f 110yd, good to firm).
Selection: QATTARA

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rns	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Mrs M Reveley	27	108	25.0	G McCourt	8	29	27.6
J Jefferson	5	21	23.8	P Niven	31	119	26.1
G M Moore	13	69	18.8	N Bentley	9	39	23.1
M Easterby	9	59	15.3	Mr R Hale	3	17	17.6
M Hammond	14	92	15.2	L Wyer	15	87	17.2
W Reed	7	46	15.2	R Guest	4	25	16.01

FONTWELL PARK

THUNDERER

12.45 Much Too High. 1.15 Ginger Jim. 1.45 Head For Heaven. 2.15 Lyme Gold. 2.45 Grooving. 3.15 Beaurepaire. 3.45 Greenspan.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) — SIS

12.45 BOROUGH GREEN JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £2,187: 2m 2f) (10 runners)

1 DAZZLER 36F M Campion 10-12 ... L Dace –
2 FATTASH 22F R Hoad 10-12 ... G Bradley –
3 02 IRON N GOLD 17 A Moore 10-12 ... B Powell 99
4 KAMA SIMBA 119F J White 10-12 ... D Bentley –
5 0 KETCHICAN 10 S Knight 10-12 ... S Burrough –
6 MUCH TOO HIGH 56F T Naughton 10-12 ... D Gallagher –
7 SHEDANSAR 211F G L Moore 10-12 ... A Thornton –
8 35 AL CORNICHE 13 K Cunningham-Brown 10-7 M A Fitzgerald 98
9 ROCKUSA 32F P Hedger 10-7 ... M Richards –
10 0 STONEHAM GIRL 17 P Butler 10-7 ... M Griffiths (7) –

2-1 Iron N Gold, 4-1 Kama Simba, Al Corniche, 7-1 Much Too High, 8-1 Fattash, 14-1 Dazzler, 16-1 others

1.15 SKANDIA LIFE BUDGET DAY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,344: 2m 6f) (12)

1 4-11 GINGER JIM 18 (F) P Hedger 4-12-0 ... M Clinton (5) 94
2 022- DAKOTA GIRL 204 (G,S) G Balding 4-11-12 ... B Fenton 93
3 213- ELBURG 211F (G) R Hoad 5-11-10 ... G Tormey 92
4 2F-1 CAILIN GLAS 10 (F) Noel T Chance 6-11-9 ... D Flanegan (5) 90
5 032- ST VILLE 193 (D,G,S) R Buckler 9-11-4 ... G Supple (5) 87
6 3P-3 WOODLANDS BOY 8 (CD,F,G,S) R Hoad 7-10-13 ... T J Murphy 94
7 21-3 COMMANCHERO 15 (F,G) R Hodges 8-10-8 ... T Dascombe 98
8 0/P- SUKAAB 342 (F) B Ryall 10-10-7 ... M Griffiths (5) –
9 -436 DARING KING 12 M Bolton 5-10-6 ... L Aspell (3) 99
10 -536 BAYLORD PRINCE 8 (CD,F,S) Miss J Ewer 7-10-2 ... Sophie Mitchell 97
11 3544 ROGER'S PAL 16 (G,S) A Moore 8-10-0 ... M Batchelor (7) 90
12 /36- LADY POLY 385 (G) J Poulton 7-10-0 ... P McLoughlin –

7-2 Ginger Jim, 4-1 Cailin Glas, 9-2 Dakota Girl, 5-1 Elburg, St Ville, 8-1 Woodlands Boy, 12-1 Baylord Prince, 14-1 others.

1.45 COOMES SELLING HURDLE (£2,140: 2m 2f) (13)

1 0P-1 KNYAZ 16 (V,CD,F,S) Mrs L Richards 5-11-12 ... M Richards 80
2 -15F LORD GLENVARA 10 (CD,F,G) T McGovern 7-11-6 ... A P McCoy 84
3 0316 CLOWATER LADY 15 (F) R Rowe 6-11-1 ... D O'Sullivan 99
4 2/6 BETALONGABILL 16 M Madgwick 6-11-0 ... J R Kavanagh –
5 /00- DUVEEN 354 J White 5-11-0 ... D Gallagher 90
6 -306 FALSE CREEK 29 G Harwood 5-11-0 ... M Perrett 78
7 244 HEAD FOR HEAVEN 14 R Hoad 5-11-0 ... G Bradley 94
8 JUST A SINGLE 7F J Fitch-Heyes 4-11-0 ... A Thornton –
9 00-6 KENTAVRUS WAY 14F A Moore 4-11-0 ... B Powell 70
10 P66/ MR ZIEGFELD 570 (B) Miss L Bower 6-11-0 ... L Harvey –
11 34 RAFIQ 29 Mrs L Jewell 4-11-0 ... W Walsh (7) –
12 P-PP THUNDEROUS 13 (B) J Bridger 4-11-0 ... W McFarland –
13 005- JULY BRIDE 215 D Browning 5-10-9 ... Peter Hobbs 84

3-1 Duveen, 5-1 Knyaz, 6-1 Head For Heaven, 7-1 Lord Glenvara, 8-1 Clowater Lady, False Creek, 10-1 Betalongabill, 14-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Fontwell Park: 1 45 Thunderous.

2.15 WALLY COOMES NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,627: 2m 2f) (10)

1 505- LYME GOLD 216 O Sherwood 6-11-10 ... J Osborne –
2 2140 FENWICK 28 (F,S) R Hodges 8-11-1 ... A Tory 92
3 -600 FICHU 47 (F) Mrs L Richards 7-10-9 ... M Richards 99
4 2PP- BRIGHT SEASON 189 J Poulton 7-10-9 ... A Thornton 81
5 F2-6 FULL SHILLING 14 K Burke 6-10-6 ... M A Fitzgerald 97
6 F2P/ RHYMING THOMAS 570 A Turnell 7-10-6 ... L Harvey –
7 /R0- WILLIE MAKEIT 456 R Phillips 5-10-3 ... J Railton –
8 P0/5 DURRINGTON 16 (S) M Bolton 9-10-3 ... P Hide –
9 5P-4 COLONEL COLT 20 R Dickin 4-10-0 ... D Meredith –
10 U064 WHYFOR 19 S Knight 7-10-0 ... D Salter (5) 89

9-4 Lyme Gold, 9-2 Fenwick, 6-1 Fichu, 7-1 Full Shilling, 8-1 Rhyming Thomas Durrington, 10-1 others.

2.45 COOMES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,734: 2m 2f) (8)

1 134- LUCKY BLUE 187 (G,S) N Thomson 8-12-0 ... M A Fitzgerald 98
2 2P2- BUTLER'S TWITCH 255 (G,S) O Sherwood 8-12-0 J Osborne 90
3 144- MUNTAFI 191F (S) G Harwood 4-11-10 ... M Perrett 90
4 2123 PAMPILLO 16 (CD,G,S) G Balding 7-11-10 Mr A Balding (7) 93
5 7U2- NAMASTE 255 (CD,G,S) R Hoad 7-11-8 ... G Bradley 99
6 11- GROOVING 221 (CD,G,S) J Gifford 6-11-2 ... P Hide 93
7 31P/ NORDIC FLASH 557 (F,G) T Naughton 8-10-0 ... D Gallagher –
8 2131 ARAMON 17 (B,F,G) M Haynes 5-10-0 ... D Skyrme 92

5-2 Grooving, 3-1 Muntafi, 7-2 Butler's Twitch, 6-1 Lucky Blue, Namaste, 8-1 Pampillo, 12-1 others

3.15 1ST PAST THE POST NOVICES CHASE (£2,872: 3m 2f 110yd) (11)

1 2P-3 CAPSIZE 34 (V,G) A Moore 9-11-4 ... B Powell 92
2 5-U5 CRACKING IDEA 17 (G) J Edwards 7-11-4 ... D Bentley –
3 P525 FETTUCCINE 13 (F,G,S) R Juckes 11-11-4 ... A Thornton 99
4 40-F MOBILE MESSENGER 10 (S) T George 7-11-4 M A Fitzgerald 88
5 0P-2 BEAUREPAIRE 7 R Alner 7-11-0 ... S McNeill 95
6 P0-P INVER CLOUD 33 C Weedon 6-11-0 ... Peter Hobbs –
7 PP-3 LORD VICK 27 Miss A Embiricos 6-11-0 ... J Ryan –
8 U/P- PALMO DAYS 344 (G) D Browning 9-11-0 ... T Grantham –
9 PRICE'S HILL K Bailey 8-11-0 ... J Osborne –
10 0P-R SUGAR HILL 13 J Gifford 5-10-12 ... P Hide –
11 0/0- BELMORE CLOUD 250 M Pipe 6-10-9 ... D Bridgwater –

3-1 Beaurepaire, 7-2 Capsize, Fettuccine, 9-2 Mobile Messenger, 10-1 Cracking Idea, 12-1 Price's Hill, 16-1 others.

3.45 BOROUGH GREEN JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £2,167: 2m 2f) (9)

1 P BLUE CAPS BOY 17 A Moore 10-12 ... P Holley –
2 GREENSPAN 59F W Muir 10-12 ... M Richards –
3 HALLELUJA TIME 174F P Ritchens 10-12 ... A Tory –
4 6 HOWQUA RIVER 17 P Chapple-Hyam 10-12 ... Peter Hobbs –
5 06 SHARED 24 M Madgwick 10-12 ... J R Kavanagh –
6 0 WATER HAZARD 18F S Dow 10-12 ... A Dicken –
7 BELLA SEDONA 59F Lady Herries 10-7 ... E Murphy –
8 364 BROCKTON LIGHT 13 R Buckler 10-7 ... B Powell –
9 03 RISK A MILLION 34 J Jenkins 10-7 ... J Osborne 99

11-4 Greenspan, 4-1 Risk A Million, Bella Sedona, 5-1 Howqua River, 6-1 Brockton Light, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Phillips, 4 winners from 10 runners, 40.0%; K Bailey, 8 from 21, 38.1%; G Harwood, 12 from 32, 37.5%; R Alner, 12 from 34, 35.3%; M Pipe, 22 from 67, 32.8%; Mrs L Richards, 5 from 17, 29.4%.

JOCKEYS: J Osborne, 12 winners from 43 rides, 27.9%; D Bridgwater, 9 from 33, 27.3%; Sophie Mitchell, 3 from 12, 25.0%; M Perrett, 16 from 73, 21.9%; A P McCoy, 9 from 43, 20.9%; E Murphy, 10 from 48, 20.8%.

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Cumani third

MANDARINA had to settle for third place behind the 22.6-1 outsider Passionnee and Ludgate in the £16,766 listed Prix Isola Bella at Saint-Cloud (1m) yesterday. Joe Naughton's Hever Golf Queen (Michael Hills) finished last in the Prix Princess Kara on the same card.

□ HEBRIDEAN, a top staying hurdler, took his first step towards potential chasing stardom when he won the Bet With the Tote Novices' Chase qualifier at Worcester yesterday. Ridden by Richard Dunwoody, the gelding beat his stablemate, King Lucifer, by 3½ lengths. Hebridean's trainer, David Nicholson, now intends aiming him at the Feltham Novices Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Kelso

Going: good to soft

12.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Colonel In Chief (P Carberry, 11-2); 2, Welsh Mill (10-11 fav); 3, Chipped Out (8-1). 12 ran. 1½l, 2l. F Murphy. Tote: £10.30; £3.60, £1.20, £2.40. DF: £4.30. Trio: £30.10. CSF: £9.98.

1.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Penny A Day (P Niven, 1-5 fav); 2, Supreme Soviet (17-2); 3, True Scot (9-1). 11 ran. 7l, 20l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £1.40; £1.20, £1.90, £1.80. DF: £3.30. Trio: £6.80. CSF: £3.38.

1.30 (3m 1f ch) 1, Rocket Run (A Thornton, 7-1); 2, Banntown Bill (9-1); 3, Seeking Gold (14-1). Island Chief 1-3 fav (f). 8 ran. 6l, 2½l. Miss L Russell. Tote: £5.20; £1.20, £1.10, £2.30. DF: £10.50. CSF: £60.07.

2.00 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Village Reindeer (L Wyer, 13-2); 2, Great Easeby (8-1); 3, Trump (20-1). Dissington Dene 5-1 jt-fav. 12 ran. Sh hd, hd. P Calver. Tote: £6.00; £2.10, £2.80, £3.20. DF: £35.60. Trio: £91.20. CSF: £54.01. Tricast: £904.62.

2.30 (3m 4f ch) 1, Jodami (M Dwyer, 2-9 fav); 2, Pink Gin (25-1); 3, Over The Deel (9-2). 6 ran. ¾l, 8l. P Beaumont. Tote: £1.30; £1.10, £3.40. DF: £5.10. CSF: £7.18.

3.00 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Jymjam Johnny (M Dwyer, 11-2); 2, Eurotwist (15-8 fav); 3, Weaver George (16-1). 8 ran. 1¾l, 8l. J J O'Neill. Tote: £9.70; £3.10, £2.00. DF: £16.60. CSF: £16.53.

3.30 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Gymcrak Cyrano (Miss C Metcalfe, 6-1); 2, Comkitty (50-1); 3, New Charges (10-3). Luciman 11-4 fav. 18 ran. 3½l, 10l. N Chamberlain. Tote: £8.20; £3.60, £9.70, £2.50. DF: £571.10. Trio: not won (pool of £136.99 carried forward to Fontwell Park today). CSF: £234.06.

Placepot: £88.40. Quadpot: not won (pool of £38.00 carried forward to Newcastle today).

Worcester

Going: soft

12.50 (2m hdle) 1, Wren Warbler (M Richards, 20-1); 2, Come Dance With Me (33-1), 3, Myblackthorn (7-1). Relkowen 9-4 fav. 21 ran. NR: Gala's Pride. 2½l, 8l. Mrs P Robeson. Tote: £22.60; £6.50, £9.50, £1.70. DF: £204.20. Trio: £258.50 (part won; pool of £327.78 carried forward to 1.15 at Fontwell today). CSF: £522.77.

1.20 (2m ch) 1, Northern Saddler (R Dunwoody, 6-4 fav, Richard Evans's nap); 2, Barna Boy (5-2); 3, Whippers Delight (14-1). 5 ran. NR: Time Won't Wait. 2l, 14l. R Hodges. Tote: £2.50; £1.40, £1.90. DF: £7.70. CSF: £5.36.

1.50 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Time For A Flutter (Mr E James, 15-2); 2, Sesame Seed (8-1); 3, Ima Delight (25-1). Mr Woodlark 5-2 fav. 12 ran. NR: Maestroso, Oats N Barley. 2½l, 25l. G James. Tote: £7.20; £1.60, £2.50, £4.40. DF: £37.10. CSF: £62.27. Trio: £251.80. Tricast: £1,307.92. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

2.20 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Hebridean (R Dunwoody, 13-8 fav); 2, King Lucifer (5-1), 3, Loma-Gail (10-1). 8 ran. NR: Darleyfordbay. 3½l, 15l. D Nicholson. Tote: £2.20; £1.10, £1.50, £1.50. DF: £5.20. Trio: £17.90. CSF: £9.50.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: BEAUREPAIRE
(3.15 Fontwell Park)
Next best: Turnpole
(12.30 Newcastle)

Thunderer was in impressive form at Worcester yesterday with winners including Wren Warbler (20-1) and Time For A Flutter (15-2). Thunderer now leads the Racing Post National Press Challenge competition.

2.50 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Cool Runner (G Bradley, 16-1); 2, Mr Cotton Socks (6-1); 3, Tellicherry (25-1). Pete The Parson 9-2 fav. 25 ran. 3½l, 2½l. Mrs S Nock. Tote: £21.30; £5.50, £2.60, £16.20. DF: £89.40. CSF: £112.86. Trio: not won (pool of £735.75 carried forward to 1.15 at Fontwell today).

3.20 (2m 7f ch) 1, Court Melody (A P McCoy, 10-1); 2, Waterford Castle (3-1 fav); 3, Prudent Peggy (14-1). 12 ran. 4l, 20l. P Nicholls. Tote: £11.50; £2.30, £2.40, £2.60. DF: £15.80. Trio: £65.10. CSF: £39.48. Tricast: £399.84.

3.50 (2m flat race) 1, Forest Ivory (R Massey, 5-1); 2, Kaladross (20-1); 3, The Grey Friar (5-2 fav). 21 ran. NR: Milly Le Moss. 15l, 7l. D Nicholson. Tote: £7.20; £2.40, £4.50, £2.20. DF: £69.90. Trio: £230.50 (part won, pool of £48.70 carried forward to 1.15 at Fontwell today). CSF: £100.90.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £18,136.31 carried forward to Newcastle today).

Placepot: £2,459.90. Quadpot: £85.60 (part won; pool of £88.78 carried forward to Newcastle today).

Wolverhampton

Going: standard

2.10 (7f) 1, Vicaim Of Love (S Sanders, 7-2); 2, Lady Dignity (11-4), 3, Scenicris (9-4 fav). 9 ran. ½l, 4l. R Charlton. Tote: £4.90; £2.10, £2.40, £1.10. DF: £6.20. Trio: £6.00. CSF: £13.65.

2.40 (1m 1f 79yd) 1, Dannistar (S Sanders, 8-1), 2, Mazilla (20-1), 3, Second Colours (4-7 fav). 10 ran. 2½l, nk. P Evans. Tote: £5.70; £2.30, £4.70, £1.40. DF: £139.40. Trio: £11.80. CSF: £104.02.

3.10 (1m 1f 79yd) 1, Sweet Supposin (C Dwyer, 3-1); 2, Canary Falcon (7-1), 3, Charlie-Don't Surf (33-1). Queens Stroller 5-4 fav. 9 ran. NR: Begger's Opera. ½l, 1¼l. C Dwyer. Tote: £5.90; £1.50, £2.70, £7.80. DF: £18.30. Trio: £124.00 (part won; pool of £87.35 carried forward to 1.15 at Fontwell today). CSF: £25.07.

3.40 (1m 100yd) 1, Domoor (J Fanning, 4-5 fav); 2, Tina Katerina (12-1); 3, Los Alamos (7-4). 4 ran. Nk, 1¾l. M Johnston. Tote: £1.60. DF: £3.00. CSF: £8.19.

4.10 (6f) 1, Jigsaw Boy (S Sanders, 4-1 jt-fav); 2, Sweet Mate (15-2); 3, Bold Street (4-1 jt-fav). 11 ran. 1¾l, ¾l. P Murphy. Tote: £4.00; £2.10, £2.00, £2.00. DF: £16.00. Trio: £38.40. CSF: £32.18. Tricast: £117.62.

4.40 (1m 4f) 1, Old Provence (A Mackay, Evens fav); 2, Pistols At Dawn (4-1), 3, Sharp Thrill (9-1). 11 ran. ½l, 2l. R Harris. Tote: £1.80; £1.40, £2.70, £1.90. DF: £4.90. Trio: £8.30. CSF: £6.19. No bid for winner.

5.10 (1m 6f 166yd) 1, Ballymac Girl (L Charnock, 10-11 fav), 2, Silver Singer (9-2), 3, Tap On Tootsie (7-1). 7 ran. 11l, 6l. J Bradley. Tote: £1.80; £1.50, £4.00. DF: £5.30. CSF: £6.33.

Placepot: £10.60. Quadpot: £22.00.

Brazilians offer rugged challenge

Ajax put youthful pedigree to the test on world stage



ROB HUGHES
Overseas Football

NOBODY will catch a cold in the National Stadium, Tokyo, today. As night falls and the fine warmth of late autumn is replaced with a sudden chill, the Japanese hosts of the 34th world club championship, between the champions of Europe and South America, effectively the contest to decide the best football club on earth, have issued visiting journalists with green coats, lined with as much warmth as an Eskimo could desire.

The Japanese, bidding to hold the 2002 World Cup, are concerned that everyone arrives and departs happy. Ajax, the Amsterdam club that has conquered Europe with its youth development, demanded that the Dutch national airline, KLM, tear out some seats on the plane so that the players would be comfortable. Grêmio, the Brazilian and South American champions, protested that the prize for competing was no more than $350,000 (about £230,000), then promptly handed it to their players and spoke of the prestige counting for more than money to the club.

So, one trusts, the 22 players will forget all that troubles them and turn this night of the Toyota Cup into the celebration football craves. For once, it is the European champions who carry the pedigree of purists, and the Brazilians, performing in a hardened "English" mode of 4-4-2, who have the reputation of being as tough as it takes to win the spoils.

Ajax, understandably concerned that their "boys" have to play not only in Dutch competition and in Europe, but also en bloc against Ireland at Anfield next month, will use their familiar 3-4-3 formation. Their coach, Louis Van Gaal, insists that his team may lack the speed of the English and the technique of the Italians, but is tactically on a high that nobody can surpass. Ajax demonstrated as much in a spectacular demolition of Real Madrid in Spain last week, a match that left seasoned observers using a single word: Utopia.

If Ajax, with their home-grown ethics and their Finnish and African imports, can indeed transmit to Japan their flowing attributes, then Grêmio will struggle to stay on the same plane.

Take just one teenager from the Ajax side. Take Nwankwo Kanu, at 19 a full Nigeria international. He bounds the field like a gazelle, head held high, on the alert while he senses danger or opportunity. Then he glides into action, a majestic player chosen by Ajax when he toured Europe with a Nigeria under-17 side in 1993.

So, while never supposing to pay the kind of fees that English clubs do for foreign talents, Ajax import them young and teach them a second language to their native tongue.

Grêmio, if anything, have roots back in Germany. For, shortly after the turn of the century, the club was formed by a group of young men in a restaurant in Pôrto Alegre, a city populated by a German colony that had settled in the Rio Grande do Sul. Grêmio's first colours copied, of all teams, those of Exeter City. But they chose from as cosmopolitan a make-up as Brazil provides — white, black and mulatto.



Elleray: in charge

That still is the make-up today, though the team has a rugged streak and volatile form, to judge from performances in the Copa Libertadores. They beat Palmeiras 5-0 and lost 5-1 to the same team in the second leg.

They are led in attack by Jardel, 22, who has scored 12 goals in 14 South American championship games. Their rock, their captain, is Adilson, their creator is Carlos Miguel, their speedy right winger is Paulo Nunez ... and their hard nugget? Dinho, who has the dubious distinction of being sent off four times this year.

The Japanese hosts, quite used by now to the talents of Brazilians, from Zico to Dunga, may be unaccustomed to seeing the flow of skill roll more fluently from Europeans than Brazilians. But they will understand the language that Grêmio preach: for in their club brochure, they translate football pride into dollars per column inch.

Grêmio boast that they have been responsible for 367 pages in Brazil's press this year, the equivalent, they maintain, to $1,289,277. They add that 412 radio hours equate to $1,660,528 and 109 television hours correspond to $3,803,962.

England has a presence here tonight. David Elleray, a housemaster at Harrow, will officiate in a game that diverted to Tokyo in 1980, Europeans and South Americans having become over-heated to the point of violence when trying to compete in home and away legs in the 1970s. It was Ajax who first refused to play such matches.

AJAX (3-4-3): E Van der Sar — M Reizger, D Blind, W Bogarde — N Kanu, J Litmanen, E Davids, F de Boer (or K Musampa) — F George, P Kluivert (or R de Boer), M Overmars.
GRÊMIO (4-4-2): Danni — Arce, Rivarola, Adilson, Roger — Dinho, Goiano, Arilson, Carlos Miguel — Paulo Nunez, Jardel
Referee: D Elleray (England).

YOSHIKAZU TSUNO



Kiki Musampa, left, and Edgar Davids come face to face in Tokyo as Ajax prepare to meet Grêmio

Bradford decline costs Lawrence his job

LENNIE LAWRENCE was dismissed as manager of Bradford City yesterday after 18 months in charge. Chris Kamara, Lawrence's assistant, is to take charge for the rest of the season.

Geoff Richmond, the club chairman, said: "Lennie has worked tirelessly for the club and it has been a pleasure to work with him. The decision to terminate his contract has been done with a heavy heart and much soul-searching."

Bradford led the Endsleigh League second division at the end of August but have since dropped to eleventh with one win in their past eight games. Lawrence, formerly in charge at Middlesbrough and Charlton Athletic, said: "I realise the results have not been up to scratch in recent weeks but the parting has been amicable. I am disappointed at the way things have turned out and I hope to continue in football management."

Mark Hateley could belatedly make his debut for Queens Park Rangers against Aston Villa in the fourth round of the Coca-Cola Cup tomorrow night. The former England international was transferred from Rangers for £1.5 million in September, but a knee injury has so far kept him out of action. "I'm absolutely desperate to play but I'll be happy with 45 minutes," Hateley said.

Reading play Southampton at Elm Park in the Coca-Cola Cup this evening.

Lou Macari, the Stoke City manager, was warned by the Football Association yesterday after being found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute. The charge followed remarks made by Macari to Gerald Ashby, the Worcester referee, during Stoke's Coca-Cola Cup tie with Newcastle United last month.

Reward for Carlisle proves tie at Leeds

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

CARLISLE wanted Wigan at home but glamour for the surviving second division club in the rugby league Regal Trophy came in the form of an away tie at Leeds, the harsh reality of making the quarter-finals for the second time in three years.

Not that the Headingley side will inhibit them. In 1993, Castleford emphatically ended Carlisle's run. They got their comeuppance, however, on their second-round visit to the sport's most northerly outpost two weeks ago, the second of the Cumbrian side's three Yorkshire club victims in the competition. Of the three divisions, Carlisle's 11-match winning sequence is the longest. They are not to be underestimated, especially by a side as jittery as Leeds appear.

Wigan may have escaped the trip to Gilliford Park but an away tie at Widnes — where Doug Laughton returned as coach during the summer — presents a difficult obstacle in the holders' quest for a record eighth Trophy title, albeit that their once-great rivals are now in the first division.

Widnes, winners three times, have already claimed the championship scalps of Oldham and Workington, and are unbeaten at home this season. St Helens survived a close call on Sunday at Hull, who they resoundingly beat in the league at Knowsley Road earlier this month.

Rochdale Hornets will find progress hard at Warrington, who yesterday completed a treble signing of players from the South Pacific. Manoa Thompson, the Fijian back, will make his first appearance since moving from Auckland Warriors for the visit tomorrow of Leeds. He is expected to make his debut on the wing.

The arrival of Mateaki Mafi, who represented Tonga in the 100 metres at the 1992 Olympic Games, is eagerly awaited. He is a recent convert from union.

Salesi Finau, his fellow countryman, also came to Warrington's attention during the recent World Cup when he impressed in a try-scoring appearance in Tonga's narrow defeat by New Zealand at Wilderspool.

REGAL TROPHY: Quarter-final draw: St Helens v Halifax; Leeds v Carlisle; Warrington v Rochdale; Widnes v Wigan.
☐ Ties to be played December 9 or 10

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Forcing the dummy to ruff is sometimes the winning defence. The usual symptoms are that the dummy has a weak trump holding and a good side suit which will provide sufficient tricks if declarer is left to his own devices. Here is an example from the BBL Premier League match between Sowter and Rosen. Senior and I were West and East.

Dealer North — **Love all** — **IMPs**

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♠K92 ♥43 ♦J972 ♣Q976	N W E S	♠Q4 ♥Q62 ♦KQ53 ♣KJ104
	♠AJ875 ♥1075 ♦A ♣8532	

Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: Six of Clubs

North opened the bidding with One Heart and South subsequently inquired about North's shape and discovered it was 3-5-4-1. Dummy won the first trick with the ace of clubs, and I played the jack. Declarer played a trump to his seven and West's nine. What should West do?

I must say it looked to me a prime moment to punch dummy — it seemed declarer was intending to draw two rounds of trumps before running hearts. Senior decided to try for tricks in diamonds and switched to the two of diamonds.

That would have been fatal if declarer had had the queen of hearts. But, after winning the ace of diamonds, he played a heart to West's four, dummy's jack and my queen. There was still time for me to play clubs but I tried to cash a diamond and that was our last chance gone — now declarer ruffed, played off the ace of spades and ran hearts, making in effect three spades in hand, four heart tricks, a diamond, a club and at the end a club ruff.

It was clear that I should have played the king of clubs after winning the queen of hearts — my partner was almost certain to have K x of spades left so a diamond trick could not run away — West would be ruffing hearts before the declarer could discard the diamond. After the club return the best declarer can do is to come to hand with a diamond ruff, ruff a club, ruff a diamond and play off the ace of spades. He then runs hearts but West ruffs the third round and exits with the king of spades, leaving declarer with only nine tricks.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Belgrade lead shared

With one round to go in the powerful international tournament in Belgrade, the lead is shared with seven wins out of ten by the Russian Grandmaster Vladimir Kramnik and the Belorussian Grandmaster Boris Gelfand.

Michael Adams, of Great Britain, has recovered from a poor start and now lies in the middle of the field.

The following drastic miniature win helped Kramnik to move into the shared lead.

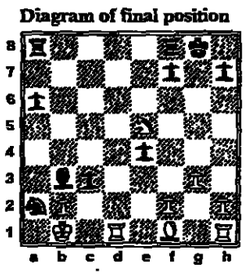
White: Ljubomir Ljubojevic
Black: Vladimir Kramnik
Belgrade, November 1995

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	e5
6	Ndb5	d6
7	Bg5	a6
8	Na3	b5
9	Bxf6	gxf6
10	Nd5	Bg7
11	g3	f5
12	exf5	e4
13	f6	Bxf6
14	Nxf6+	Qxf6
15	Qd5	0-0
16	c3	b4
17	Nc4	bxc3
18	Qxd6	Be6
19	Qf4	Qg7
20	0-0-0	Nb4
21	Qe5	Nxa2+
22	Kb1	Qxe5
23	Nxe5	Bb3

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Campomanes returns

Florencio Campomanes, the former world chess federation (FIDE) president, who last week resigned his post at the head of the world body, has staged a remarkable comeback.

At the Paris meeting of FIDE last week, Campomanes was invited to take up the new post of FIDE chairman. Kirsan Ilumzinov, of the autonomous Russian republic of Kalmykia, was duly elected president, with the responsibility of arranging the reunification match between Garry Kasparov and the FIDE champion.

Apart from this, Ilumzinov's role is predicted to be more of a ceremonial nature while the real reins of power are retained by Campomanes.

Times world championship book

All games of the world title match are now available with commentary by Raymond Keene in a Times book, *World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand* (Batsford £9.99). Credit card orders on 01376 327901 (please quote 5/655).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BOMBAZINE
a. A fabric
b. A big bustle
c. A green baize-door covering

BUGLE
a. A bull's horn helmet
b. An ornament
c. Bandmaster's mess kit

SUBFUSC
a. Mourning bands
b. Formal student wear
c. A diving suit

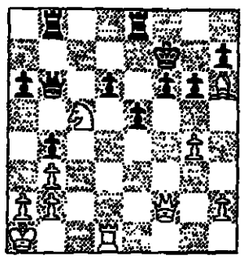
CAMLET
a. A material
b. Cheese wrapping
c. Formal wear at Cambridge

Answers on page 46

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Platz - Lampe, Halle 1967. Black appears to have a solid wall of pawns around his king but White's next move exposed this as an illusion. What did he play?



Solution on page 46

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*

Coca-Cola Cup
Fourth round
* Reading v Southampton (7.45) .....

Auto Windscreens Shield
Second round
Northern section
Chesterfield v Rochdale .....
Hull v Blackpool .....
Lincoln v Preston .....
Rotherham v Wigan .....
Scunthorpe v York .....
Wrexham v Carlisle .....

Southern section
Brentford v Fulham (7.45) .....
Bristol Rovers v Bournemouth .....
Cardiff v Northampton .....
Oxford Utd v Colchester (7.45) .....
Peterborough v Swansea (7.45) .....
Shrewsbury v Bristol City .....
Walsall v Brighton (7.45) .....

Spalding Challenge Cup
Second round
Farnborough v Dover (7.45) .....
Kettering v Stevenage (7.45) .....
Macclesfield v Kidderminster (7.45) .....
Runcorn v Southport (7.45) .....

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Third qualifying round replays: Bilston v Halesowen; Bamber Bridge v Burton (7.45); Lancaster v Ashton United; Witton v Bishop Auckland; Tamworth v Stafford; Oxford City v Bromley (7.45); Staines v Molesey; Braintree v Carshalton

FA CARLSBERG VASE: Second round, second replay: Sawbridgeworth v Furness

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Rushden and Diamonds v Baldock. Midland division: Buckingham Town v Belper; Leicester United v King's Lynn; R C Warwick v Rothwell. Southern division: Clevedon v Weymouth Dr Martens Cup: First round, second leg: Merthyr Tydfil (1) v Newport AFC (2)

ICIS LEAGUE: First division: Berkhamsted v Wembley, Marlow v Thame. Second division: Witham v Hampton (7.45). Third division: Kingsbury v Harlow (7.45). Carlton Cup: Second round: Aylesbury v Purfleet; Barton Rovers v Heybridge Swifts, Boreham Wood v Barking; St Albans v Ruislip Manor; Tooting and Mitcham v Wokingham. Carlton Trophy: Second round: Aveley v Ware, Bracknell v Harefield; Dorking v Hungerford, East Thurrock v Cheshunt; Egham v Leatherhead (7.45), Hemel Hempstead v Edgware; Metropolitan Police v Chalfont St Peter; Northwood v Southall; Maidstone v Bedford (7.45); Wivenhoe v Leighton.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Congleton v Curzon Ashton; Eastwood Town v Farsley Celtic; Harrogate Town v Bradford Pk Ave. President's Cup: First round: Worksop v Gainsborough.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Felixstowe v Hadleigh; Lowestoft v Stowmarket (7.45); Tiptree v Harwich and Parkeston; Wisbech v Haverhill; Woodbridge v Sudbury.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Burgess Hill v Horsham YMCA; Crowborough v Peacehaven and Telscombe; Ringmer v Langney Sports; Wick v Whitehawk.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Bicester v Didcot.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Blakenhall v Barwell; Pershore v Sandwell; Rushall Olympic v Stapenhill.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Herne Bay v Beckenham (7.45).

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Horley v Chipstead.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Maine Road v Mossley League Cup: Second round replay: Trafford v St Helens. Floodlit Trophy: Second round: Kidsgrove v Newcastle Town.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Liversedge v Brigg; Louth v Stocksbridge PS; North Ferriby v Armthorpe Welfare; Ossett Town v Boorswash Vic; Thackley v Hatfield Main; Winterton v Ashfield, Maltby MW v Garforth

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Luton v Arsenal, Portsmouth v Crystal Palace (7.0); Queens Park Rangers v Watford (at Harrow Borough FC, 7.0). Second division: Plymouth v Bath; Torquay v Bournemouth (7.0)

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Second division: Port Vale v Leicester (7.0) Postponed: Coventry v Grimsby, Bradford v Huddersfield

SUN LIFE GOLD CUP: Quarter-finals: Crusaders v Bangor; Linfield v Glentoran; Omagh v Portadown. Postponed: Cliftonville v Glenavon

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Replay: Huddersfield v Preston. Second round: Sheffield v Newcastle; West Ham v Aston Villa, Wimbledon v Brighton; Burnley v Stoke, Blackburn v Nottingham Forest; Millwall v Southampton

FA PREMIER LEAGUE UNDER-19 TROPHY: Staffordshire v Worcestershire (Cheetown FC)

RUGBY UNION

Heineken Cup
Pool B
Cardiff v Ulster (7.15) .....

Tour match
Newcastle v Transvaal (7.30) .....

CIS under-21 county championship
Midlands semi-final
North Midlands v Staffordshire (at Stourbridge, 7.30) .....
North semi-final
Cheshire v Yorkshire (at Sale, 7.15).

Club matches
Pontypool v Cardiff (7.0) .....
Pontypridd v Maesteg (7.0) .....
South Wales Police v Aberavon (7.0) ....

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: CIS Insurance Scottish Masters (Coatbridge).
SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (Preston).

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday December 2
unless stated
Coupon No. fixture, forecast

FA PREMIERSHIP
1 Aston Villa v Arsenal X
2 Blackburn v West Ham X
3 Bolton v Nott'm F 2
4 Leeds v Man City 1
5 Liverpool v South'pton 1
6 Man Utd v Chelsea 1
7 QPR v Middlesbro 2
8 Tottenham v Everton 1
Not on coupons: Sheffield Wednesday v Coventry (Monday), Wimbledon v Newcastle (Sunday)

FIRST DIVISION
9 Derby v Sheff Utd 1
10 Grimsby v Charlton 1
11 Leicester v Barnsley 1
12 Luton v Tranmere 2
13 Millwall v Watford 1
14 Norwich v Stoke 1
15 Port Vale v Hudd'fold 2
16 Portsmouth v Oldham 1
17 Reading v West Brom X
18 South'd v Birm'gham 2
Not on coupons: Sunderland v Crystal Palace (Sunday); Wolves v Ipswich (Sunday)

SECOND DIVISION
Not on coupons: Burnley v Carlisle, Swansea v Rotherham

THIRD DIVISION
Not on coupons: Doncaster v Exeter

FA CUP SECOND ROUND
19 Barrow v Wigan 1
20 Blackp'l v Colwyn Bay 1
21 Cinderf'd v Graves'd 2
22 Fulham v Brighton 2
23 Wrexham v Chest'field 1
24 Oxford v Northampton 1
25 Peterboro v Bognor 1
26 Rochdale v Darlington 2
27 Scunth'pe v Shr'sbury X
28 Stockport v Blyth 1
29 Swindon v Cardiff 1
30 Telford v Notts Co 2
31 Torquay v Walsall 2
Not on coupons: Bournemouth v Brentford, Bradford v Preston; Crewe v Mansfield; Enfield v Woking; Gillingham v Hitchin; Hereford v Sutton United; Kingstonian v Plymouth (Sunday)

CONFERENCE
32 Dagenham v Welling 1
33 Dover v Kettering X
34 Gatesh'd v Hednesf'd 1
35 Halifax v Bromsgrove 1
36 Morec'be v Southp't X
37 Stalybridge v Slough X
38 Stevenage v Macc'sf'd 1

SCOTTISH PREMIER
39 Celtic v Kilmarnock 1
40 Falkirk v Raith X
41 Hearts v Rangers 2
42 Motherwell v Hibs X
43 Partick v Aberdeen 2

SCOTTISH FIRST
44 Airdrie v St Johnst'ne 1
45 Dundee U v Dumb'ton 1
46 Dunf'mline v Hamilton 1
47 G Morton v Clydebank 1
48 St Mirren v Dundee 2

SCOTTISH SECOND
49 Ayr v Q of South 1
50 East Fife v Berwick X
51 Montrose v Stm'muir X
52 Stirling v Forfar 1
53 Stranraer v Clyde 1

SCOTTISH THIRD
54 Albion v Brechin 2
55 Alloa v Queen's Pk 1
56 Arbr'th v Cowdenb'th X
57 Caledonian v E Stirling 1
58 Livingston v Ross 1

DRAWS (home teams): Aston Villa, Blackburn, Reading, Scunthorpe, Dover, Morecambe, Stalybridge, Falkirk, Motherwell, East Fife, Montrose, Arbroath.

BEST DRAWS: Blackburn, Dover, Stalybridge, Falkirk, Arbroath

AWAYS: Middlesbrough, Tranmere, Huddersfield, Gravesend, Walsall.

HOMES: Derby, Grimsby, Leicester, Millwall, Blackpool, Wrexham, Gateshead, Halifax, Stevenage, Celtic, Airdrie, Stirling.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Derby, Millwall, Gateshead, Stevenage, Stirling. Aways: Tranmere, Huddersfield, Aberdeen. Draws: Dover, Stalybridge, Falkirk.

☐ Vince Wright

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The Times and *The Sunday Times*, are offering readers the chance to win one of 80 holidays for two, plus 10 per cent discounts, to a range of destinations throughout the world.

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Your itinerary will take you to Tripoli from where you will drive to see 1,000 year old Cedar trees, the country's national emblem. You will visit Baalbeck (above), where there are temples to the Phoenician god Baal and the Roman-built Jupiter temple with six colossal columns. From there you go to the fortified city of Anjar, once a hunting resort for the Omayyad Dynasty and stay in the 4,000 year old city of Byblos.

DEPARTURES: Feb 16, Mar 15, Apr 12, May 10 and 31, Sept 6 and 27, Oct 18 and Nov 15, 1996. Price from £697, down from £775 per person, with our 10% discount.

To win today's holiday, answer the question below and phone our competition hotline: 0891 40 50 34, open until midnight tonight. The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries. Normal *Times* Newspapers competition rules apply.

Q. Which dynasty once lived in Anjar?

Calls are charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p at all other times.

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هكذا من الاصل

Cabbie seeks out route to tournament play in Europe

Trodd driven by lure of tour

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN SAN ROQUE, SPAIN

HIS face seems wise beyond its years, open and friendly beneath hair cropped so short it could have been mown. If there seems something different about Tim Trodd, it is because he is different. Plenty of taxi drivers ply their trade on the Costa del Sol but Trodd, 25, is the only South London minicab driver attempting to win his card for the PGA European Tour next year a few hundred yards from the notorious road that links Gibraltar in the west with Malaga in the east.

Amid the 85 players left at the qualifying school here, Trodd is easy to recognise. He is the one with the glamorous caddie. Carry Mace, his girlfriend of 6½ years, models swimwear and underwear and is an active partner in Trodd's attempt to earn a living by playing tournament golf.

"Carry's caddied for me in a dozen events on the Hippo Tour [sponsored by the clothing manufacturers] this year," Trodd said. "She is very good on the mental side. She is very positive. She knows my moods. We don't argue a lot."

"Plus I am completely on his side," Mace interjected. "I've caddied for seven rounds in seven days, and I'm aching in muscles I haven't got. It's difficult to stay positive and keep egging him on when you're feeling dead tired."

There is one round remaining in this 108-hole strokeplay competition. The leading 40 players and those tied gain entry to the European tour next year. After rounds of 72, 73, 71, 75 and 75, Trodd lies sixtieth. All his hours of getting up at six o'clock "to go cabbing and then do a couple of hours' practice" will count for naught unless he improves his position in the sixth and final round today.

Yet the man least concerned about it is Trodd himself. He has an unusual perspective on golf because his life is not solely devoted to it. "I work for a firm called Eden Park Cars, in Beckenham, and I like cabbies. They are good people," he said. "Eden parked cars they call it because they are doing so little business at the moment," Mace said.

"I take a lot of old dears on shopping trips," Trodd continued. "There's the woman who wants a bottle of brandy and a bag of crisps every day and it's a lottery whether she has the money to pay for it or whether I have to pay and hope to get it back. But that's all right." In his teens, Trodd played golf for England Boys. After leaving school, he had a series of odd jobs earning money to enable him to play amateur golf during the day. He laboured, he worked in Marks & Spencer, he delivered sandwiches made up the previous night by his girlfriend and his mother. "It was not what you wanted to do in the evenings."

Trodd turned professional two years ago. He practises at Langley Park Golf Club but also hits long-irons on South London playing-fields. "I get attacked a lot by old women with dogs who ask me what I'm doing," he said.

He has a powerful swing, and a deft touch but his greatest strength may be his worldliness. "I am capable of getting my card this year," he said quietly. "I am not in doubt about that. I want to reach my potential. I've been skint and I've been scraping the barrel. Now I am interested in making some money. But if I don't, it won't matter. If I'm getting by, have a roof over my head, can go cabbing, play the Hippo Tour, I'm happy. I have only started playing these last couple of years. I know how good I can be."

He strained a tendon in his left wrist at the start of his fifth round and took 41 to the turn before, with typical thoughtfulness and calmness, he effected a slight change in his swing. He gripped the club less firmly. Coming home, knowing the importance of it all, he had three birdies and could have had more. But that was life and he dealt with it. "It happens and is going to happen again and again, isn't it?" he said. "Not a lot can throw me."

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Trodd practises putting under the watchful eye of Mace, his girlfriend and caddie

LEADING SCORES: 350: H Buhrmann (SA) 67, 73, 68, 68, 73. 352: A Collison (Eng) 69, 70, 71, 73, 69; S Webster (Eng) 74, 65, 71, 74, 68. 353: M Wills (Wales) 71, 68, 70, 72, 72. 354: S Gallacher (Scot) 72, 72, 68, 69, 73; T Gogele (Ger) 67, 76, 68, 71, 72. 356: P Sjöland (Swe) 69, 76, 68, 74, 69. 357: R Coles (Eng) 69, 72, 69, 74, 73; A Laboux (Fr) 71, 68, 71, 74, 73; D Eclund (Swe) 79, 70, 72, 67, 69. 358: S Pullan (Eng) 70, 70, 69, 74, 75; J C Piñero (Sp) 73, 69, 68, 74, 74. 359: C Post (Den) 71, 71, 71, 74, 72; O Salberg (Swe) 70, 71, 72, 75, 71; A Cabrera (Arg) 71, 74, 67, 75, 72; M Welch (Eng) 74, 73, 69, 72, 71; G Chalmers (Aus) 74, 68, 70, 77, 70.

360: A Kankkonen (Fin) 74, 67, 71, 74, 74, M Tunnicliff (Eng) 72, 70, 72, 73, 75; R Muntz (Holl) 70, 72, 67, 78, 73; M Plummer (Eng) 76, 68, 68, 76, 72; J McHenry (Ire) 73, 72, 70, 73, 72; D Higgins (Ire) 73, 73, 66, 76, 72; F Howley (Ire) 72, 69, 75, 73, 71; I Feliu (Sp) 67, 77, 68, 78, 70; P Harrington (Ire) 71,75,68,76,70.

John Daly, who finished 16 shots behind Greg Norman in the Australian Open at the weekend, will take on the world's No 1 golfer again in Norman's own Classic tournament in Sydney this week. Anthony Gilligan, the defending champion, has withdrawn in order to try to regain his playing card on the Japanese Tour.

European prospects could keep Weir from Newcastle

BY DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT AND MARK SOUSTER

DODDIE WEIR, the Scotland lock, suggested yesterday that he might stay with Melrose instead of joining Newcastle if Scottish clubs rather than districts compete in Europe next season. Weir knows that the financial implications of European competition would enable clubs such as Melrose to put their players under contracts and help to stem the flow of players to England.

Asked if he would definitely move to Newcastle once he was satisfied with the small print of his contract, Weir, 25, said: "Not necessarily, although what they have offered is very enticing. But, if Melrose got into Europe, that could put a different perspective on things."

Whether clubs or districts represent Scotland is still the subject of debate. The Scottish Rugby Union said yesterday that a decision would be made once dates were known and that it hoped the argument would be settled by consensus. The union is known to favour district participation but is aware of the need to keep its best players in Scotland.

Weir and Gary Armstrong, the Jed-Forest scrum half, have signed registration forms with Newcastle and both will be at Kingston Park for the match with Transvaal tonight. Armstrong is expected to play, if only for 20 minutes, but Weir will not take part because of a shoulder injury.

Dean Ryan, once of Wasps, also makes his Newcastle debut tonight alongside Rob Andrew, Graham Childs and the former West Hartlepool lock, John Dixon.

Brian Moore will play in the London divisional side against Western Samoa at Twickenham tomorrow. Moore, Jason Leonard and Steve Bates form the experienced core of a youthful side.

The Midlands team to play the Samoans at Leicester on Saturday will be named today but will be without Dean Richards and Martin Johnson. Richards, the deposed England No 8, decided earlier this season that he did not wish to be considered for divisional rugby while Johnson is on a coaching visit to Kuala Lumpur.

Both Cardiff and Ulster have been hit by injuries before their Heineken Cup meeting at the Arms Park tonight. Cardiff give late fitness tests to three internationals, Hemi Taylor, Derwyn Jones and Adrian Davies, while Ulster yesterday lost Paddy Johns, the Ireland No 8, whose place goes to Dave Erskine, of Sale.

LONDON DIVISION (v Western Samoa, November 29): J Ufton (Wasps), D O'Leary (Harlequins), N Greenstock (Wasps), P Mensah (Harlequins), A Adebeyo (Bath), D Pears (Harlequins), S Bates (Wasps, captain); J Leonard (Harlequins), B Moore (Harlequins), I Dunston (Wasps), L Dallaglio (Wasps), A Snow (Harlequins), M Watson (Harlequins), R Jenkins (Harlequins), A Diprose (Saracens). Replacements: S Rolser (Wasps), G Gregory (Wasps), A Gomersall (Wasps), S Brown (Harlequins), S Mitchell (Harlequins), M White (Wasps).

IN BRIEF

Schwer pulled out of European challenge

BILLY SCHWER was yesterday pulled out of his European boxing title challenge against Angel Mona, of France, after his stoppage by David Tetteh, of Ghana, in the twelfth round of a Commonwealth lightweight title defence at the weekend. The Luton boxer, whose face was badly marked in the contest, has been told by his manager, Mickey Duff, to "take a complete rest from boxing for three months".

Duff's decision may have headed off action by the European Boxing Union (EBU), who were likely to have withdrawn Schwer's nomination for the contest, expected to take place in February. The EBU is taking a strong line with proposed No 1 contenders who lose bouts. Schwer's defeat by the strong Ghanaian has not only cost him the Commonwealth title and European challenge — it has proved a serious setback to long-term plans for a second attempt at a world title. Almost a year ago, he lost to the International Boxing Federation champion, Rafael Rueles.

Moseley's bid for Botica

RUGBY UNION: Moseley, the ambitious Courage league second division club, are hoping to persuade Frano Botica, Castleford's record-breaking goal-kicker, to return to rugby union from rugby league.

Moseley have already held talks with the 32-year-old New Zealand international and are now attempting to put together a sponsorship package to finance the signing. Barrie Corless, Moseley's playing director, said: "We've already spoken to Frano and he's expressed an interest in returning to union."

Botica is currently recovering from a broken leg which he suffered playing for Auckland Warriors earlier this year.

Youth team's honour

YACHTING: Britain's national youth sailing team, which returned from the world championships in Bermuda earlier this year with three gold medals and the top team award, has been shortlisted for the annual yachtsman-of-the-year award. Individual team members Ben Ainslie, who will represent Britain in the Laser single-handed class at the Olympics next year, and Sally Cuthburt, who has won three youth gold medals in successive years — a feat matched only by the America's Cup skipper, Chris Dickson — are also shortlisted for the award for young sailor of the year.

Happy return for Nicol

SQUASH: Peter Nicol, the Scottish champion who refused to play for his country in the world team championship earlier this month, preferring to pursue world ranking points on the international circuit after a drop in form, found himself almost back at his professional beginning in Doha last night. With a straight games victory over Amir Wagih, of Egypt, Nicol advanced to a second-round match against Sami Eloparo, of Finland, in the Qatar international championship, from which he launched his career two years ago.

Frank Hammond dies

TENNIS: Frank Hammond, considered the first full-time professional tennis umpire, has died in New York at the age of 66. Hammond is often remembered for being in the chair at the 1979 US Open when a riot broke out in the stands during a match between Ilie Nastase and John McEnroe. Hammond had disqualified Nastase in the fourth set for stalling. As Nastase argued with the umpire, supporters ran onto court and fights broke out in the stadium. Officials overruled Hammond and reinstated Nastase.

Australians triumph

REAL TENNIS: Robert Fahey, the world champion, and his fellow-Australian, Frank Filippelli, survived a thrilling battle against Jonathan Howell and James Male to reach the final of the British Land British Open championship at Queen's Club. Howell is the Oratory School professional and Male the world rackets champion. Fahey and Filippelli now meet the British favourites, Chris Bray and Mike Gooding, in what promises to be a battle royal.

Carpenter takes title

BOWLS: Phil Carpenter, an undertaker's assistant from Merthyr Tydfil, surprised Robert Weale, of Radnorshire, a leading Wales international, when he beat the favourite, 6-7, 7-5, 7-6, in the final of the Welsh Brewers Champions All indoor singles event at Dinefwr in Ammanford. Carpenter, 28, has yet to catch the eye of the national selectors but, on his way to the final, he beat Mark Lewis, of Newport, Keith Edwards, of Taff-Ely, and Les Harris, of Ogwr, without dropping a set.

O'Sullivan moves into overdrive with style



O'Sullivan: big lead

BY PHIL YATES

RONNIE O'SULLIVAN, who at times makes even Jimmy White appear pedestrian, was in overdrive as he nonchalantly moved within sight of a quarter-final place in the Royal Liver Assurance United Kingdom snooker championship at Preston yesterday.

O'Sullivan, in his last week as a teenager, needed only 1hr 57min to establish a 7-1 lead over Chris Small, of Edinburgh, and leave himself needing just two more frames for victory.

With the match resuming at 2pm, it is fair to assume that, in this mood, O'Sullivan will wrap up proceedings in time to discover how the Chancellor of the Exchequer has decided to tax his lucrative earnings.

O'Sullivan surprisingly failed to survive the first round of the season's opening two world ranking events — the Skoda Grand Prix and Thailand Classic — but he has returned to something near his best.

Small, the world No 62, defeated Stephen Hendry in the quarter-finals of the Regal Welsh Open ten months ago, but yesterday he found it impossible to contain O'Sullivan, who compiled breaks of 61, 63 and 94 in rapidly building a 5-0 advantage.

A decisive run of 61 in the sixth frame enabled Small to open his account, but it proved a temporary interruption as the world No 3 added further contributions of 55 and 80 in the closing two frames of the session.

It was a similarly one-sided affair on the adjoining table where Ken Doherty, last year's UK championship runner-up, opened a 7-1 lead over Dennis Taylor.

Doherty was within two frames of providing Hendry's quarter-final opposition after the most effective performance of what has otherwise been a disappointing season. The Dubliner constructed breaks of 94, 74, 113, 59 and 58, while, from 3-0 to 7-0, he allowed Taylor to aggregate only six points.

Hendry has repeatedly insisted that he will retire from competition in 2000, but yesterday the world champion gave an indication he may have partially changed his mind.

"I'll certainly quit full-time involvement, but I'm leaving my options open about playing in tournaments such as the Benson and Hedges Masters and UK and world championships," Hendry said at the launch of his coaching book, *Stephen Hendry's Snooker Master Class*.

Hendry's ambition is to win the world title twice more to supersede the modern era record jointly held by Ray Reardon and Steve Davis, who have each triumphed in the game's blue riband event on six occasions.

SCORES: Third round: K Doherty (Ire) leads D Taylor (N Ire) 7-1; R O'Sullivan (Eng) leads C Small (Scot) 7-1.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Charlotte 111 Boston 109, Detroit 102 Houston 100, Minnesota 105 Milwaukee 102, Seattle 97 Chicago 92, Sacramento 99 New Jersey 92.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leopards 99 Doncaster 70.Sheffield 66 Leicester 71. 7UP Trophy: Quarter-finals: Second leg: London Towers 85 Thames Valley 66. London win 174-148 on agg. First leg: Chester 89 Birmingham 108.

BOWLS

BELFAST: Mixed International: Singles: Section A: A Thomson (Eng) bt D Le Marquand (Jer) 7-6, 7-4; J Davies (Wales) bt Le Marquand 7-4, 1-7, 7-5; Thomson bt Davies 7-2, 7-4. Section B: D Corkill (Ire) bt M Price (Eng) 7-1, 7-5; G Robertson (Scot) bt Corkill 7-2, 7-5; Robertson bt Price 7-5, 7-1. Section C: J Henry (Ire) bt S Gourley (Scot) 7-0, 7-6; J Greenslade (Wales) bt Gourley 7-2, 7-5; Greenslade bt Henry 7-2, 7-0 Section D: J Queripel (Guer) bt M Johnston (Ire) 7-1, 7-4; T Allcock (Eng) bt Queripel 7-1, 7-5; Allcock bt Johnston 7-1, 7-4. Semi-finals: Allcock bt Greenslade 7-4, 0-7, 7-0, 7-6; Robertson bt Thomson 7-5, 7-5, 1-7, 5-7, 7-0. Final: Allcock bt Robertson 7-4, 4-7, 3-7, 7-5, 7-4.

DINEFWR (Ammanford): Singles tournament: First round: T Matthews (Earlswood) bt J Wright (Vale of Glamorgan) 0-7, 7-2, 7-4; C Todd (Cardiff) bt I Thomas (Severn Valley) 7-4, 7-0; G Williams (Pembrokeshire) bt K Peregulin (Dinefwr) 4-7, 7-4, 7-0; G Evans (Rhondda) bt I Hser (Torfaen) 7-6, 4-7, 7-4. Second round: Williams bt Evans 7-2, 7-1; Matthews bt Todd 7-3, 7-3; L Harris (Ogwr) bt J Wilkins (Port Talbot) 7-2, 7-6; P Diment (Hetherton) bt G Ellis (Bro Dyfi) 7-4, 6-7, 7-6; P Carpenter (Merthyr Tydfil) bt M Lewis (Newport) 7-5, 7-2; K Edwards (Taff-Ely) bt D Biddle (Sealand) 7-6, 7-6; J Price (Swansea) bt R Burdan (Llanelli) 7-4, 7-3; R Weale (Radnorshire) bt J Bonatti (Flint) 5-7, 7-6, 7-4. Quarter-finals: Williams bt Matthews 4-7, 7-5, 7-3; Harris bt Diment 7-5, 7-6; Carpenter bt Edwards 7-5, 7-1; Weale bt Price 7-2, 7-3. Semi-finals: Weale bt Williams 7-1, 2-7, 7-3; Carpenter bt Harris 7-4, 7-6. Final: Carpenter bt Weale 6-7, 7-5, 7-6.

PORTSMOUTH: England under-25 International trial: Whites bt Reds 131-101. Rink scores (white skips first): S Airey 26 D Toyn 14, S Skelton 24 A Hollis 18; I Jenkins 16 N Williams 18; I Bond 21 D Baxter 20; N Jones 25 D Auckland 17; R Newman 19 S Reading 14.

BOXING

CARACAS: WBA Junior Featherweight championship: Antonio Carmano (Ven, holder) bt Jesus Salud (Mex), pts.

FOOTBALL

FA UMBRO TROPHY: First-round draw: Stalybridge Celtic v Gresley Rovers; Stafford Rangers or Tamworth v Guiseley; Colwyn Bay v Altrincham; Halifax Town v Southport; Ashton United or Lancaster City v Blyth Spartans; Dudley Town v Halesowen Town or Bilston Town; Macclesfield Town v Runcorn; Burton Albion or Bamber Bridge v Telford United; Gainsborough Trinity v Nuneaton Borough; Morecambe v Emley; Hednesford Town v Northwich Victoria; Kidderminster Harriers v Gateshead; Marine v Hyde United; Leek Town or Boston United v Chorley; Bromsgrove Rovers v Bishop Auckland or Witton Albion; Radcliffe Borough v Matlock Town; Bromley or Oxford City v Merthyr Tydfil; Rothwell Town v Welling United; Bognor Regis Town v Worcester City; Dover Athletic v Cheltenham Town; Chelmsford City v Newport AFC; Bath City v Yeovil Town; Gloucester City v Molesey or Staines Town; Trowbridge Town v Sudbury Town; Carshalton Athletic or Braintree Town v Woking; Famborough Town v Slough Town; Rushden and Diamonds v Purfleet; Kettering Town v St Albans City; Cambridge City v Boreham Wood; Hayes v Enfield; Stevenage Borough v Dagenham; Redbridge Wembley v Kingstonian.

Matches to be played on January 20

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Boavista 5 União de Leiria 0, Belenenses 0 Felgueiras 1; Gil Vicente 2 Guimaraes 0; Chaves 2 Tirsense 0; Leca 1 Salgueiros 1; FC Porto 6 Maritimo 0; Camponolonense 1 Farense 0; Sporting Lisbon 6 Amadora 2; Braga 1 Benfica 2.

BRAZILIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Portuguesa 1 Flamengo 1, Santos 2 Paysandu 1, Internacional 2 Bragamino 2; Criciuma 2 Guarani 0; Botafogo 2 Vasco 0; Palmeiras 2 São Paulo 0; Sport 1 Cruzeiro 0; Parana 2 Bahia 0; Juventude 2 Goiss 1; Vitoria 5 União São João 1, Flumnense 1 Corinthians 1.

ARGENTINE LEAGUE: Velez 2 Argentine Juniors 0; Belgrano 1 San Lorenzo 2; River Plate 0 Boca Juniors 0; Rosario Central 2 Gimnasia Le Plata 0; Banfield 1 Colon 1, Estudiantes 2 Lanus 1; Gimnasia Jujuy 4 Platense 3; Huracan 1 Independiente 0; Racing 4 Newell's Old Boys 1.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Kingston: Jamaica 1 Norway 1.

CRICKET

LAHORE (final day of three): England A drew with Patron's XI

ENGLAND A: First Innings: 298 for 6 dec (N V Knight 107, J C Pooley 100 not out).

Second Innings

A McGrath c Qadir b Shadid	0
J E R Gallian low b Shadid	1
S D Udal c Qadir b Azwar	21
†D P Ostler c Qadir b Shadid	23
*N Hussain not out	42
C White not out	37
Extras (b 5, nb 1)	6
Total (4 wkts dec)	130

N V Knight, J C Pooley, T A Munton, R D Stemp and A M Smith did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-9, 3-37, 4-53.

BOWLING: Shadid 11-2-35-3; Azwar 10-2-23-1; Mohammad Ali 3-0-13-0; Anwar Ali 8-3-21-0; Aamir 8-2-27-0; Manzoor 3-1-6-0.

PATRON'S XI: First Innings: 187 for 9 dec (Azwar Mahmood 63 not out; T A Munton 5 for 54).

Second Innings

Shakeel Ahmed b Udal	8
Nadim Younis c Udal b Munton	4
Atif Rauf c McGrath b Munton	1
Manzoor Akhter not out	35
*Akram Raza not out	29
Extras (b 2, lb 8)	11
Total (3 wkts)	88

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-14, 3-16.

Anwar Ali, †Javed Qadir, Azwar Mahmood, Mohammad Ali, Shadid Nazir and Aamir Wasim did not bat.

BOWLING: Munton 11-5-13-2; Smith 4-2-7-0; Udal 13-1-36-1; Gallian 6-0-21-0, Stemp 1-1-0-0

Umpires: Mian Mohammad Aslam and Ikram Rabbani.

JAMSHEDPUR: Second women's international: England 196 (S Debir 4-36) and 194 (N David 8-53); India 263 (S Debir 60, S Sirsar 54) and 125 (D Stock 4-32). England won by two runs.

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (final day of four): Adelaide: Western Australia 309 and 378-9 dec (J Langer 153, A Gilchrist 68); South Australia 333-9 dec and 186 (G S Blewett 65, B Johnson 54; B Hogg 5-59). Western Australia won by 146 runs. Hobart: New South Wales 368-9 dec and 270-6 dec. Tasmania 263 and 266 (S Young 57; G Matthews 4-31). New South Wales won by 109 runs.

CYCLING

CYCLO-CROSS: CROYDON: Greater London Open Championship (15 miles): 1, R Hammond (GB Amateurs) 1hr 8min 20sec; 2, B Clarke (Team Raleigh) at 45sec; 3, D Baker (Team GT) at 1:00. Seacroft Wheelers (Leeds, 12 miles): C Young (Rocky Mountain) 1:08'00. ABC Centreville (Rochdale, 12 miles): B Green (Oldham Century RC) 1:02:47. Castrils CC (Sunderland, 13 miles): J Lambeth (RT Elite) 1'05'00. Lichfield City CC (Burton on Trent, 13 miles): S Knight (Halesowen A and CC) 58'16. Mersey RC (Liverpool, 12 miles): B Green (Oldham Century RC) 1:04:14. Ashfield RC (Sutton-in-Ashfield, 9 miles): J Taylor (Brook CC) 50:44. Bradford Olympic RC (Leeds, 10 miles). C Young (Rocky Mountain) 53:30. Craigavon Challenge (Craigavon, Co Armagh, 14.7 miles): M Carroll (Sean Valley Wheelers) 1:09:26.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Florida 5 Los Angeles 1; Calgary 2 Chicago 2 (OT); Winnipeg 4 Edmonton 0.

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Durham 3 Nottingham 2; Humberside 9 Milton Keynes 2; Newcastle 4 Cardiff 13; Sheffield 13 Fife 3. First division: Billingham 6 Medway 9, Blackburn 11 Bracknell 4; Chelmsford 1 Guildford 8, Murrayfield 2 Manchester 6; Telford 6 Swindon 7.

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: British Land open championship: Final: R Fahey (Aus) bt L Deucher (Aus) 6-2, 6-2, 6-2. Doubles: semi-finals: C Bray and M Gooding bt L Deucher (Aus) and C Ronaldson 4-6, 6-4, 6-5, 6-2; R Fahey (Aus) and F Filippelli (Aus) bt J Howell and J Male 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

RUGBY UNION

FRENCH CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool one: Racing 12 Toulouse 26, Narbonne 26 Grenoble 14; Agen 15 Bayonne 18, Perpignan 26 Nice 3; Toulon 31 Nimes 16. Pool two: Rumilly 20 Brive 19; Montpellier 12 Dax 8; Pau 12 Castres 15, Colomiers 18 Bègles-Bordeaux 15; Bourgoin 12 Montferrand 3.

ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: L'Aquile 10 Petrarca Padova 20; Roma 28 Milano 16; Amatori Catania 19 Benetton Treviso 37, Piacenza 18 Rovigo 24; Livorno 12 Milan 58; Calvisano 25 San Dona 8.

SKIING

PARK CITY, Utah: Men's World Cup: Slalom: 1, A Miklavc (Slovenia) 1min 38.72sec; 2, C Meyer (Austria) 1:38.73; 3, F De Crignis (It) 1:38.84 4, S Amiez (Fr) 1:38.95; 5, J Kosir (Slovenia) 1:39.06; 6, M Kunc (Slovenia) 1:39.15 (50.87, 49.72). Leading slalom standings: 1, Amiez 130 pts; 2 equal, M Trisicher (Austria) and Miklavc 100; 4, Kosir 85; 5, De Crignis 82.5. Leading overall World Cup standings: 1, M Von Grunigen (Switz) 300 pts; 2, L Kjus(Nor) 285, 3, Kosir 176; 4, U Kaelin (Switz) 156, 5, Meyer 140; 6, Amiez 130.

Fishing cast into controversy



Brian Clarke says that angling bodies have no mandate for a formal alliance with fox-hunting

The meeting this week of the executive committee of the National Federation of Anglers (NFA) looks likely to be a turbulent affair. The organisation, which claims to represent millions of coarse fishermen, has been riven by the decision of its leaders, and the leaders of other angling bodies, to formalise the first links with groups promoting fox-hunting and hare coursing.

Ken Ball, the NFA's national president and the man most closely identified with the link, faces calls for his resignation. Two NFA regions have formally demanded that the contacts be severed. Several groups have said that if they get nowhere at the meeting on Friday — and Ball is not a man to back down quietly — they will carry their fight to remove him to the NFA's annual conference in the new year.

The decision by the NFA, the Salmon and Trout Association (S and TA) and the National Federation of Sea Anglers, to edge closer to other field sports, was made in October at the first national angling conference in many years to be staged by all three.

The three bodies said they "support and recognise the British Field Sports Society (BFSS) as the unifying body for lobbying on their behalf in the collective defence and promotion of country sports". The BFSS is best known for its defence and promotion of hunting with hounds, but it has sought a protective link with angling's millions ever since public opinion began to move against its own core interests.

At the same time, the three groups pledged support for the Countryside Business Group (CBG). The CBG is a new fund-raising body which aims to defend the interests of landowners, farmers and businesses which profit from field sports and similar activities, by protecting such pursuits through lobbying and advertising. The CBG was formed earlier this year but it has already begun to deter potential recruits through its right-wing stance and use of highly-charged language. Within days of the announcements being made, the NFA, the S and TA and the BFSS issued a statement expressing concern at some of the headlines which resulted. They denied claims made in some newspapers that anglers had suddenly swung their support behind fox-hunting and the like.

The new statement was greeted coolly on all sides. While some reports unquestionably had exaggerated events, the angling bodies had allowed the CBG to fund their conference, the BFSS had been given two speaking slots and a session chairmanship on the agenda and leaders of the BFSS and the angling groups had read aloud coordinated statements formalising some contacts between themselves for the first time.

Many felt that if the NFA and the S and TA really did not realise how this package would be interpreted by the world outside almost regardless of the niceties of any words actually used, then the organisation's political antennae were astonishingly misaligned. For all the public protestations, there can be little doubt that the BFSS — which was naturally defending its own interests in any way it could — will have been delighted at the outcome.

> 'Large numbers will be against the links forged in their name'

The headlines implanted in the public mind the first perceptions of support for its activities by angling's leaders and, by inference, angling's millions.

However, this perception is likely to be false. The three angling bodies which made these decisions are not governing bodies in any meaningful sense. They represent minority groups in vast sports made up of millions of individuals who, by temperament are not doers and joiners. While no one can say for certain what these individuals think about hare-coursing and the like, past evidence and the fact that this huge group also forms part of generally hostile public opinion suggests that large numbers will be against the links forged in their names.

Indeed, as the turmoil in the NFA shows, the leaders of these bodies cannot be said to speak for even their own members on this issue because their members have not been consulted.

Until the dust settles, it seems, only one thing can be said with certainty. It is that there has to be something profoundly wrong when a matter of the highest principle and sensitivity, agonised over for many years by the rank and file, can be decided by leaderships without the clearest mandate and then announced at short notice as a *fait accompli*.

In the context of the debate, these decisions were not urgent. The membership of the S and TA is not so large that voting papers could not have been slipped into one of the occasional mailings which its members receive. The NFA could have tabled a motion for debate at its annual conference, with clubs passing forward their views through delegates.

But all of that is detail. Many clearly feel it is the principle that counts.

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Old Etonian proving perfect foil for Illingworth in South Africa

Players respond to four in harmony

Alan Lee believes the optimistic and united aspect offered by the England cricket side is a tribute to its skilled management team

It seemed an unlikely recipe for spirit and harmony — two tough, opinionated Yorkshiremen, an urbane doctor from Stroud and a bubbling Old Etonian with three initials. And yet it is working. England's cricket, which has bumbled along for years casting off mismatched and ineffectual management teams, has hit upon a happy formula.

In any leadership structure, cracks will only be visible beneath the microscope of defeat and, as this six-week-old tour has yet to suffer turbulence, caution is required. But on the evidence of observation and the unreserved endorsements of those within the party, the Lord's casting-couch has excelled itself.

Michael Atherton, the captain, gave an unsolicited testimony. "This is the best management I have toured with," he said. Other players are equally flattering and the spirit that has plainly been created between them tells its own story. There is a cheerful, united feel to this team which has been absent from many recent England sides. So what is going on behind the dressing-room door?

The first and most important point is that Raymond Illingworth and John Robert Troutbeck Barclay is an inspired pairing. Barclay, the Etonian in the camp, is the perfect foil to the team manager, different in every conceivable way and yet dovetailing seamlessly. "I am a tremendous believer in complete contrasts making very good marriages," Barclay said.

"I didn't know Illy well before this tour. I once captained Sussex against him when he came out of retirement to play for Yorkshire. I remember thinking I could not believe he was better than any spinner I'd faced that season. But he was, at past 50.

"The thing is, I respect people who are as passionate about cricket as I am. Just because Raymond was awfully good at the game and I was fantastically ordinary doesn't matter. We're on the same wavelength."

If Illingworth, who has a well-chronicled disregard for the "jazzhats" of cricket's old-school tie set, had any doubts over his assistant, they exist no longer. Barclay, 41, does all the diplomatic, logistical and bureaucratic duties that would drive Illingworth to distraction. But he does much more besides. And so do the two remaining members of the backroom team.

Phil Bell, a silver-haired 37-year-old who once played club cricket with Jack Russell, is the team doctor. He has not been overworked yet and can consider this a gentle net for the World Cup in India and Pakistan. But he fits: the players like and respect him, which applies equally to Wayne Morton, officially physiotherapist but in practice everything from fitness instructor to dressing-room disc jockey.

Morton, once a rugby league player with Carlisle, gave it up because "I was being paid £8 a week to have my head kicked in" and the bruises did not sit well with his community care role as an NHS physiotherapist. Since then he has worked with Leeds rugby league club before branching into cricket, which he had never played, with Yorkshire.

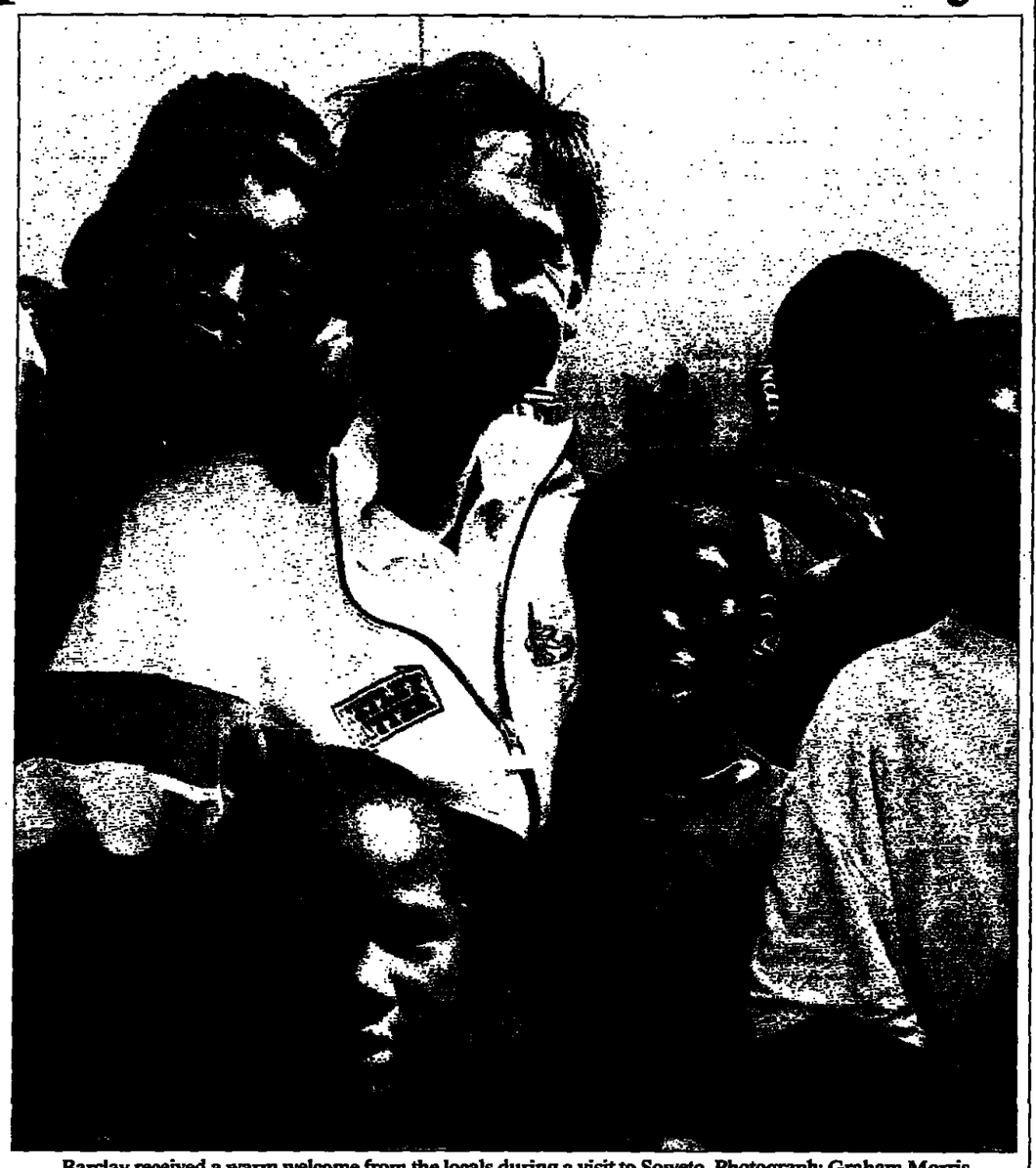
Apart from being demonstrably good at his primary job — Darren Gough says the fitness levels on this tour "are far higher than I've known before" — Morton is the players' sounding-board, their trusted counsellor. And, in the dressing-room, on a vast ghetto-blaster, he pounds out Crowded House, REM or the team's tour song, *Sit Down*, by James.

It makes for a noisy, vibrant and essentially young atmosphere and it frequently sends Illingworth in search of peace, threatening the team with his Johnny Mathis tapes.

Barclay, who worked with Morton on the England A tour of India last winter, hovers paternally in the background. He beams and bubbles disarmingly but he is not to be underestimated. "No one has just one role in our set-up," he explains. "We all muck in. It's leadership by consultation not by direction. I have set no disciplinary rules or curfews — that would not be my style. The challenge is to get players working with you willingly.

"We have regular team get-togethers. I don't like the word meeting, it sounds too formal. Of course, we have technical and motivational talks, from the captain or manager, but we also have social gatherings where people can talk about cricket if they want to, or not if they don't. I'm not naive enough to say there won't be a problem on this tour. In a way I hope there is, because it will then show whether we have done things right and if we have the framework to sustain spirit and come out of the troubles stronger than before."

Barclay is an engaging man and a convincing one. "Ordinary" cricketer he may have been, but he is turning out to be anything but ordinary at man-management. With him, and those around him, the England team may now possess the infrastructure that has long been lacking.



Barclay received a warm welcome from the locals during a visit to Soweto. Photograph: Graham Morris

Munton ready to benefit from Smith's misfortune

FROM PAT GIBSON IN LAHORE

A FINAL decision about Mike Smith's future on the England A cricket tour of Pakistan will be made today, but it seems to be a foregone conclusion. All the signs are that the Gloucestershire left-arm swing bowler will be going home in the next few days and that Tim Munton, the Warwickshire seamer, who was flown out to cover for him, will be staying for the rest of the trip.

Munton took two more wickets yesterday to give him match figures of seven for 67 on his first appearance. Smith, still feeling the effects of a rib injury, bowled only four overs as England A's run of six successive victories came to an end. The Patrons' XI, set an improbable target of 242 in 49 overs, had reached 88 for three when the light began to fade and the match was abandoned as a draw an hour before the scheduled close.

It was a low-key finish to a low-key game in the relaxed atmosphere of the picturesque Gymkhana ground here, which would be reminiscent of Kew Gardens if it was not for the parrots in the trees and the kites circling overhead. Yet, Nasser Hussain, the England A captain, insisted that they had got what they wanted from it.

"Unfortunately, it was virtually impossible to get a result in a three-day game which was the equivalent of a two-day game in England because the light goes so early," he said. "But we wanted to find a few things out and we did."

This means that England A now have a clear idea of how they are going to deploy their resources in the two remaining five-day international matches and three one-day internationals. They have two objectives — to win both series and give everybody a game.

Munton and the off spinner, Shaun Udal, will certainly figure at some stage but the only significant change for the second international, which starts at Rawalpindi on Thursday, could see Jason Pooley, of Middlesex, replace the young Yorkshire batsman, Anthony McGrath. "We will have to think about it very carefully because McGrath is a good young player," Hussain said. "But he has just had three low scores while Jason got a century here. He is also a left-hander who looks to be very positive against the spinners."

Dominic Ostler failed to press his claim yesterday when he was caught behind off the impressive young fast bowler, Shahid Nazir, before Hussain and Craig White took England A to a declaration at 130 for four with an unbroken stand of 77.

There was never much prospect of the Pakistanis chasing the runs and it disappeared completely when Munton struck twice in his opening spell and Udal took a wicket with his second ball. That was the extent of England A's success and, in the end, they seemed to be going through the motions.

"The five days coming up in Rawalpindi are probably the most important days of the trip so far," Hussain said. "If we win we will have taken the 'Test' series, which is what we are here for, so whatever's gone before is now irrelevant. I think Pakistan A will improve by 15 to 20 per cent with a few more experienced players coming into the side and I think we will have to improve by that much as well."

Scoreboard 45

England's thrilling triumph

ENGLAND'S women cricketers snatched a dramatic victory over India in the second international in Jamshedpur yesterday. With two overs remaining and India just four runs short of victory on 124 for eight, wicketkeeper Jane Smit ran Sangita Dabir out at the bowler's end and Jo Chamberlain trapped Laya Francis leg-before to clinch an unlikely two-run win.

England had resumed on 94 for four in their second innings — a lead of just 27 — and progressed to 194 all out thanks to a defiant innings of 42 not out from Smit. That left India needing 128 from 40 overs.

Spinners Debbie Stock, who took four for 32, and Kathryn Leng, who took two for 34, put England in command as India collapsed to 106 for eight.

However, the ninth-wicket pair took India to the brink of victory before Smit and Chamberlain combined to kill off their hopes.

England now have an unbeatable lead in the three-match series as they prepare for the third and final international starting in Hyderabad on December 10.

Warne gets chance to prove fitness

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE Australia selectors yesterday named Shane Warne in a 13-man squad for the third and final Test match against Pakistan, only ten days after the leg spinner broke his toe.

Warne, who was originally given little chance of playing, has until tomorrow to prove his fitness for the game, which starts at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Thursday.

Warne sustained a fracture to his left big toe when he was struck on the boot by a yorker from Waqar Younis while batting on the first day of the second Test in Hobart. He took no further part in that match and has not played since. He claimed 11 wickets in Australia's innings victory in the first Test in Brisbane.

If he is ruled out for the Sydney Test, his place is likely to be taken by Peter McIntyre, a fellow leg spinner, who has been added to an otherwise unchanged squad. Australia lead the series 2-0.

Pakistan are expected to give a late fitness test to Salim Malik, who has not played since cutting his hand while fielding during Australia's first innings in Brisbane.

Javed Miandad, another former Pakistan captain, has been included in the 20-man preliminary squad for the World Cup next year. The final party of 14 will be chosen in mid-January.

Nagpur, where nine spectators died after a stadium wall collapsed during the one-day match between India and New Zealand on Sunday, may be taken off the list of World Cup venues. It is due to stage the match between Australia and Zimbabwe. Police yesterday charged the organisers of the game on Sunday with causing the deaths of the spectators.



Warne: broken toe

AUSTRALIA: M A Taylor, M J Slater, D C Boon, M E Waugh, S R Waugh, I A Healy, G S Blewett, P E McIntyre, S K Warne, P R Reiffel, C J McDermott, G D McGrath, B P Julian.

RADIO TIMES

When peace broke out

War and Peace. *Radio 2, 9.00pm*

In Maura Clarke's montage of ordinary people's memories during the first decade after the Second World War, the only famous voices are Stafford Cripps's and Aneurin Bevan's. Which is how it should be. If we don't know by now what the opinion formers of the decade were up to, we never will. *War and Peace* is history through the eyes of Everyman and Everywoman. There's the man who saw his first banana and did not know how to unzip it. There's the man who, as a youth, did not know whether he was being disloyal by learning German. There were holidays on barbed-wired beaches, and film fans queuing for three hours to see the latest Cary Grant.

Kelly's Eye. *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*

Gill Adams's two-hander is like a grey February day when, with a bit of luck, the sun coyly shows its face. It is about lives that have settled into a deep rut. Gladys (Rosemary Leach) and Tom (Roy Barraclough) are an elderly couple whose affection for each other ran its course long ago. They communicate tangentially. A chair-bound misanthrope, Tom is invisibly shackled to his television set. Gladys's only pleasure is the weekly bingo. She waits for the phone call that we know will never come. The song with which the play begins and ends contains this plea: "Love me as though there was no tomorrow. Take me out of this world tonight." Its hollow ring is almost deafening.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat; and at **1.15** The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, incl at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat; and at **6.15** The Net. **7.00** Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq **9.00** Cling Film with Mark Kermode and Wendy Lloyd **10.00** Mark Radcliffe and Boy Lard **12.00** Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Paul Heiney **2.00pm** Ed Stewart **3.30** Jimmy Young **6.00** Ed Stewart **7.00** Heyes Over Britain **8.30** A Spanish Lover, by Joanna Trollope. With Jemma Redgrave and Caroline Langrishe (6/6) **9.00** War and Peace — See Choice **10.00** Tommy Steele Presents Harold Fielding **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine, incl at **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** News; Dirty News **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck; and at **1.15** Entertainment News **2.05** Rescue on Five **3.00** 5 Live Budget Special with John Inverdale **7.00** News Extra, incl **7.20** Sport **7.35** The Tuesday Match, with Marcus Buckland: Coca-Cola Cup, fourth-round ties **10.05** News Talk, Budget Special **11.00** Night Extra with Valeris Senderson, incl at **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** Raeburn **4.00** Chisholm and Turner **7.00** Sean Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** Whale **1.00-6.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **5.00am** News **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Off the Shelf: *Middlemarch* **7.30** New Ideas **7.50** Portrait of the Artist **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Concert Hall **9.00** News in German **9.15** Counterpoint **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf: *Middlemarch* **11.00** News **11.30** Thirty-Minute Drama **12.00** News **12.05pm** Business **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** From Hoplite to Hamlet **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Multitrack: Hit List **3.00** News in German **3.15** On Screen **3.30** Omnibus **4.00** News **4.15** The World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business Report **5.45** Britain Today; the Budget **6.00** News **6.30** News in German **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Megamix **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** Business **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Meridian **10.00** News **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.10** Encore **11.15** Anything Goes **11.45** Country Style **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** What's News? **12.45** Britain Today **1.00** News **1.10** Press Review **1.15** On Screen **1.30** Purcell's London **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Andy Kershaw **3.00** World News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Discovery **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata **7.00** Opera Guide **8.00** Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00-6.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. With Penny Gore. Smetana (Vltava). **6.15** Bruch (Scottish Fantasy in F minor) **6.43** Debussy (Printemps) **7.05** Monteverdi (De La Bellezza) **7.22** Farkas (Ancient Hungarian Dances from the 17th Century) **7.32** Beethoven (Overture: King Stephen) **7.53** Stravinsky (Prélude et Ronde des Princesses) **8.05** Turina (Piano Sextet) **8.32** Starnit (Symphony in D)

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Sibelius (Finlandia) **9.09** Punto (Horn Concerto No 6 in E flat) **9.24** Mascagni (Intermezzo) **9.28** Ravel (String Quartet)

10.00 Musical Encounters. With Edward Blakeman. Vivaldi (Concerto in G minor) **10.10** Schumann (Kinderszenen) **10.30** Stravinsky (Symphony of Psalms) **11.15** Wranitzky (Wind Serenade in F) **11.35** Wieniawski (Violin Concerto No 2 in D minor)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Vivaldi. 2: The Passion. Sinfonia in B minor, Stabat Mater, Concerto in E flat, Motet: Non in prais aut in hortis, Credo

1.00 Ulster Orchestra under Jan Latham Koenig, with Hugh Tinney on piano. Wallace (Overture: Lurine); Poulenc (Suite: Les Biches); Moeran (Rhapsody in F sharp)

2.00 Schools. Playtime **2.15** Time to Move **2.35** Listen!

3.00 Mozart (Serenade No 11 in E flat). The Scottish National Orchestra Wind Ensemble

3.25 Britten's Apprenticeship. At Gresham's and with Frank Bridge. Paul Hindmarsh and Philip Reed present a selection of works which Britten composed under the guidance of Frank Bridge: They include: Sonatina, Rhapsody, Bagatelle, Everyone Sang, A Little Idyll, Quartettino, Elegy and A Hymn to the Virgin (2/4)

5.00 The Music Machine. How IUMA promotes music on the Internet

5.15 In Tune. With Geoffrey Baskerville in Glasgow. Debussy (Etudes) **6.03** Wilbye (Draw on Sweet Night) **6.35** Prokofiev (Flute Concerto from Sonata in D, Op 94)

6.55 Live from Convent Garden: *Mathis der Maler*, by Paul Hindemith. Alan Titus as Mathis; Thomas Young as Hans Schwalb; Chrisbane Oelze his daughter Regina; Robin Leggate as Sylvestar von Schaumberg and Peter Rose as Lorenz von Pommersfelden. With the Royal Opera Chorus Orchestra of the Royal Opera House under Esa-Pekka Salonen

10.45 Night Waves. New art and drama with Christopher Cook. Announcing the winner of the Turner Prize. Also, Timberlake Wertenbaker returns to the Royal Court Theatre with a new play, *The Break of Day*

11.30-12.30am Music Restores: Airs for the Seasons. Jeremy Barlow on a cycle of instrumental suites by the 18th-century Scottish composer, James Oswald. Also readings from James Thomson's poem, *The Seasons*

RADIO 4

6.00am News Briefing incl Weather **6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day** With Father Oliver Crilly **6.30 Today** with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie, incl **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross (0171) 580 4444

10.00 American Beauty: Death Valley Opera. In the second of two programmes, Roger McGough and Pete McCarthy leave the city lights for the delights of the desert (FM only)

10.00 Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)

10.30 Woman's Hour. Serial: *The Misses Mallett* Patricia Hodge reads E.H. Benson's novel (10/10)

1.30 Medicine Now

12.00pm: News; You and Yours With Tasneem Saddiqi.

12.25 Booked! Mark Thomas, Roger McGough, Dillie Keane and Miles Kington deliver their thoughts in the irreverent literary game chaired by Ian McMillan **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One With Nick Clarke.

1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping

2.00 Thirty Minute Theatre: Kelly's Eye by Gill Adams See Choice

2.30 Personal Records (New Series) Jeremy Nicholas explores the record collection of the percussionist Evelyn Glennie

3.00 PM Budget Special including full coverage of the Chancellor's speech and instant explanation and analysis of its impact. The presenters are Chris Lowe and Jon Sopel. **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Rent Comedy series by Lucy Flannery (3/6) (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 File on 4

8.00 Science Now (r)

8.30 In Living Colour Linda Mitchell discusses current issues affecting the lives of black and Asian people in Britain.

9.00 In Touch For those with a visual handicap.

9.30 Kaleidoscope Paul Vaughan reads Joyce Carol Oates's new novel and two new books of rock photography **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight

10.35 Budget Broadcast by the Conservative Party, by the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, MP

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Inside Mr Enderby. The late Sir Robert Stephens reads a classic black comedy by Anthony Burgess (4/12)

11.00 Mediumwave (r)

11.30 The New Europeans. Views of life in a European city through the eyes of one of its British residents (4/6) (r) (FM only)

11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)

12.00am News Incl **12.27** approx Weather.

12.30 The Late Book: Bright Lights, Big City Chris Eugeman reads Jay McInerney's tale of 1980s hedonism (7/9) **12.48** Shipping

1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Mawby, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

BOMBAZINE

(a) A corded fabric of silk and worsted, derived from the Greek *bombyx* (a silk-worm). Much favoured by late Victorian matrons such as the Queen Empress and Mrs Beeton for dreary black dresses. "I have just the gear for your next apotheosis at ballroom dancing, Ruth dear. It is a voluptuous teepee of black bombazine all set off with jet spangles and sparkles. It is bound to cause a sensation, and possibly a pile-up, in the rumba."

BUGLE

(b) A narrow long black bead, like a werewolf's tear, which could be used by those of a subfusc inclination to ornament a bombazine dress. Possibly from the Dutch *beugel* a ring, though it shaped more like a stalactite. "Sensational, Ruth. Now all you need is a bugle with which to trip your partner up in the paso doble."

SUBFUSC

(b) Formal wear for Oxford undergraduates when taking exams, from the Latin "pretty damned dark". The full requirement used to be dark suit, white shirt and white dress (bow) tie, black shoes and socks, plus cap and gown. As always with dress regulations for the young, it was tested to the limits of the examiner's tolerance. "Why so subfusc, Rachel, or can that be your disingenuous interview twin-set?"

CAMLET

(a) A material of wool and goat's hair. Etymology the Latin *camelus*, possibly once camel-hair cloth. Sir Edmund Berry Godfrey went to his death in a camlet coat. "His stockings were a kind of rusty black, and his coat of a dark-coloured chamblet." *Chamblet* was a variant of *camlet*.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qxf6+! Kxf6 2 Rf1+ Ke7 3 Bg5 mate.

Elite hold key talks

BRITISH ice hockey's future is under discussion today at a meeting which could reshape the structure of the sport (Norman de Mesquita writes).

The British Ice Hockey Association (BIHA) meet members of the new "Super League" to discuss plans for an elite competition.

The participating teams would be decided on the basis of arena size and quality of facilities.

There are only three rinks — Manchester, Sheffield and Newcastle — which are big enough for such a venture, but it is hoped that Wembley Arena might be persuaded to stage ice hockey again and also that the NEC in Birmingham could become a regular venue.

If the Spectrum in Ayr could overcome its difficulties and find a way to stage the sport, that could complete a nucleus of rinks with a good geographical spread and the "Super League" could become a reality.

Nottingham Panthers joined Cardiff Devils at the top of the premier division after their win over their Welsh rivals on Saturday. But they lost the position on Sunday when they were surprisingly beaten by Durham Wasps, while the Devils beat Newcastle Warriors to regain sole possession of first place.

The Warriors have moved into their new 7,500-seat arena although the team is not nearly as good as its home.

Help is on the way with Gary Douville, the Warriors' coach, hoping to sign four new players, including Richard Laplante and Tim Salmon, two former British League favourites.

Results, page 45

Drugs vote awaited

DECISION day dawns for world swimming here today with the sport's governing body proposing a series of rule changes that could see nations suspended from competition for up to two years and competitors denied titles and records.

The International Swimming Federation (Fina) called the extraordinary congress to coincide with the world short-course championships, partly in the light of the 19 positive drugs tests taken from Chinese swimmers in the past five years. If the proposals win approval, those guilty of steroid abuse will face a suspension of at least two years. A subsequent positive test by the same athlete would result in a life ban.

Responsibility is also being placed on the shoulders of national federations. A second positive test within one country in the same year would result in a fine of $10,000 (about £6,500) for the federation, a third test $30,000 and a fourth would merit the suspension of that nation for two years. Under such rules, China would not have been eligible to compete at the Olympic Games in Atlanta next year.

Federations would also be compelled to report all drug-test results, positive or negative, to Fina.

Suspensions could also be backdated by six months, if the proposals are agreed. The new wording would have meant that Lu Bin, 200m medley world champion, and Jang Aihua, 400m freestyle world champion, would have been stripped of their titles. As the rule stands, the two suspended Chinese swimmers retain titles won in September because their positive tests were taken in October.

هكذا من الاصل

Exit Fitz, left, pursued by a femme fatale

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

And so, in a puff of stylishly back-lit smoke, Fitz was gone. The automatic doors swished symbolically shut, separating him from Judith, from Penhaligon and finally from us. **Cracker** (ITV) was over and Fitz was a man alone with his thoughts — such as how exactly was it that he had been so completely upstaged by the Princess of Wales last week?

But by last night the nation had caught up with its video recordings, the damage had been repaired. Someone was out there electrocuting male psychology students and we knew who. It was that Janice — by day a mousy lab technician but by night transformed by some serious eyeshadow and a little velvet choker into the sort of *femme fatale* who used to crop up regularly in *Tales of the Unexpected*. The 1970s revival has a lot to answer for.

Of the three stories that have made up the final *Cracker* series, *True Romance* managed to be both the scariest and, if you thought about it, quite the silliest. A failed psychology student murdering her youngers and betters because she nursed a quiet passion for a big, Scottish know-all. It hardly had the ring of truth about it.

But it did have more than a ring or two of enjoyable television about it, helped by a splendidly convincing performance from Emily Joyce as Janice, whose sustained menace was a joy to behold — unless it was you she had handcuffed and wired-up to Old Sparky, her iron bedstead.

Actually it was Mark, Fitz's son, who had drawn the short fuse, presenting Robbie Coltrane with the dramatic challenge of showing he could do high emotion as well as whisky and cigarettes. It was a challenge he met with only limited success, although he made up for it by smoking that final cigarette quite beautifully.

In the past, *Cracker* has never fought shy of borrowing from real life but writer Paul Abbott could never have anticipated the additional resonance that recent events in Winchester would bring to his disturbing denouement. Janice's problem turned out to be that unlike her sisters she had *not* been abused by her father. "Men like your father," Fitz told her, " say they can look into a crowd of a thousand kids and know within seconds which ones are vulnerable... But you were a strong little girl."

Coltrane is right to call an end to *Cracker*. Its third sitting-on-the-loo shot in three episodes somehow seems indicative of a series that had exhausted its supply of provocative ideas, while the progress of the secondary storylines — the wife, the mistress and the career — has been slow, unexciting and incidental. Still, its departure leaves ITV with a huge hole in its drama schedule and 15 million people wondering what they are going to watch on Monday night.

Well, if they were after more scenes of sickening violence, they would have enjoyed **Nature Special: City Trees** (BBC2), which began with horrific scenes of mass arboreal murder. Axe murderers and chainsaw massacres became almost commonplace, as trees met their end in a variety of awful ways — strangled, strimmed, poisoned and sliced untidily through by cable television gangs. It may have been scheduled for after the nine o'clock watershed, but scenes of slow-motion amputation proved the final straw. I sent my quietly sobbing yucca to bed.

"It is a pity trees don't scream when they are hurt," complained Professor Tony Bradshaw: "then people would pay more attention." True enough, but if trees could scream, this programme — made by Neil Nightingale, one of the producers behind *The Private Life of Plants* — would never have got on television.

But they don't, it did and the result was a fascinating, if rather depressing look at the legion of problems facing our urban trees. The programme had two central themes — first it looked at the problems now being faced by the majestic, mature trees planted by forward-thinking Victorians a century ago. Misapplied herbicides, trenching gangs and redevelopment pose the biggest threat to these gentle giants, which apart from doing all manner of things for the common city good (reducing dust, pollution and noise to name but three) also manage to look very nice.

The second was to explain one of the mysteries of modern urban life — why it is that so many of the thousands of young trees planted each year spend ten miserable years tied to a post, growing nowhere — and then fall over dead. If the strimmer doesn't get them, then the post-tie will. My yucca doesn't know how lucky it is.

Earlier, I had been looking forward to the evening getting off to a gently enjoyable start with the return of **Wish You Were Here..?** (ITV), that lightly bronzed cornerstone of the early evening winter schedule. But something had changed — the question was, what? There was Judith Chalmers being a bit grumpy about a not quite inclusive enough holiday on Evia: there too was Anna Walker minnying around the Isle of Wight in a pair of cut-off denims, and there was John Carter, complete with multipocketed and much travelled waistcoat, in South Africa. Nothing very new there then.

But then it dawned on me — the famous Chalmers links have gone. Those wonderfully surreal sentences, that could transport us from the Sahara desert to Antarctica in two shakes of a tortured simile, are no more. Instead, the film reports are joined by a sulky-sounding and off-screen Chalmers, reluctantly obeying instructions to play it straight. Life will never be the same again.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (78954)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (94244751)

9.10 Kilroy (s) (4884119)

10.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (5231770) **10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (s) (5889698)

10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (63954)

12.00 News (Ceefax), and Weather (9236022)

12.05pm Pebble Mill. Ross King introduces Rolf Harris, Carla Lane, Eric Sykes, and the Pretenders (s) (4392770) **12.50 Regional News** (23009022)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (33732)

1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (92409409) **1.50 Snooker** The third round of the UK championship (s) (3301954) **3.05 Incognito** (s) (1630935)

3.30 Orville and Cuddles (r) (6521645) **3.35 Blinky Bill** (5854935) **4.00 Oscar's Orchestra** (s) (6335515) **4.25 Animal Hospital** (s) (5522515) **4.35 It'll Never Work** (Ceefax) (s) (1492409) **5.00 Newsround** (Ceefax) (8414515) **5.10 Byker Grove** (Ceefax) (5000916)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (400190)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (799)

6.30 Regional news magazines (751)

7.00 Holiday. Jill Dando sails in the Aegean aboard a gulet; Alan Hansen visits Atlanta; Sankha Guha roams Budapest; and John Pitman samples Bognor Regis (Ceefax) (s) (1886)



Willy Roper (Michael Tudor Barnes) (7.30pm)

7.30 EastEnders. Ricky leaves for Paris, Wellard and Sonia share supper and a troubled Pat goes walkabout. (Ceefax) (s) (935)

8.00 Due South: Letting Go. Final episode in the series starring Paul Gross and David Marciano. With Victoria gone, Fraser's physical and mental well-being hang by a thread, as a guilt-ridden Ray hovers at his bedside. But what is going on outside the hospital window? (Ceefax) (s) (757138)

8.50 How to Be a Little S*d. A mother mistakenly believes that now she has given birth she can take up the threads of her life again. With Rik Mayall (Ceefax) (s) (286515)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (3521) **9.30 Budget Broadcast** by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Ceefax) (s) (514913)

9.40 FILM: Fire in the Sky (1993) with D. B. Sweeney, Robert Patrick, Craig Sheffer and James Garner. A group of loggers report the disappearance of a colleague in Arizona in 1975. The men, who claim to have seen a bright object in the sky just before the disappearance, become murder suspects until, five days later, he reappears unable to explain his absence. Based on a true story. Directed by Robert Lieberman (Ceefax) (S) (451409) **WALES: 9.40** Week In Week Out (316409) **10.10** The Dragon Writes Back (604461) **10.20** Film: Fire in the Sky (957374) **12.05am** Guns 'N Roses (4528894) **12.55-1.55** Snooker (7965829)

11.25 **Guns N' Roses: The Photographic History** (109799)

12.15am Snooker. Highlights of today's play at the Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (s) (495726)

1.15 Weather (3831875)

BBC2

6.00am Technology Season

7.00 Breakfast News. With signing (4578003)

7.15 Lassie (3119206) **7.40 The Legend of Prince Valiant** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (1710886) **8.05 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3944022)

8.35 The Record (s) (4727206)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (6239139)

2.00 The Family Ness (r) (76699867) **2.05 Christopher Crocodile** (r) (76698138)

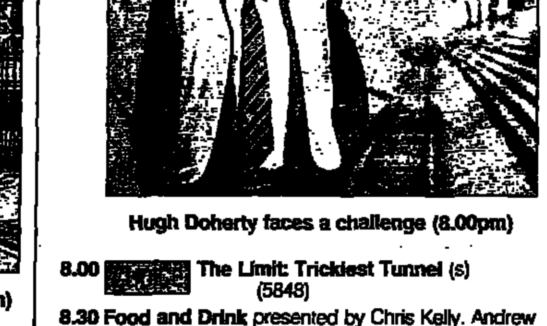
2.10 Budget 95. Live coverage and analysis, introduced by David Dimbleby, of Kenneth Clarke's third Budget (96350480)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air. American teen comedy (r) (s) (508374)

6.25 Heartbreak High. Drama series about the students and staff of a school in Australia. (Ceefax) (s) (393393)

7.10 Dear Dilemma. Real-life crises are dramatised and then discussed by celebrities Clare Buckfield from *2Point4Children* and racing driver Johnny Herbert join Lisa I'Anson. (Ceefax) (s) (906312)

7.30 From the Edge. Series made by disabled people for the disabled. (Ceefax) (s) (577)



Hugh Doherty faces a challenge (8.00pm)

8.00 **The Limit: Trickiest Tunnel** (s) (5848)

8.30 Food and Drink presented by Chris Kelly. Andrew Brown, who last year won the first Raymond Blanc scholarship, goes back to college where he helps students prepare a special lunch for Raymond Blanc; Michael Barry makes party canapés; Jilly Goolden and Oz Clarke recommend low-priced wines for Christmas. (Ceefax) (s) (7683)

9.00 Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads? Classic comedy starring Rodney Bewes, James Bolam and Brigit Forsyth (r). (Ceefax) (8393)

9.30 **Picture This: No Ordinary People.** (Ceefax) (s) (913374)

10.20 Another Foot in the Past. Baroness Castle revisits Kelmscott Manor in Gloucestershire, the former home of the 19th-century artist and active socialist William Morris (631515)

10.30 Budget Broadcast by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (s) (230003)

10.40 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman. (Ceefax) (508886)

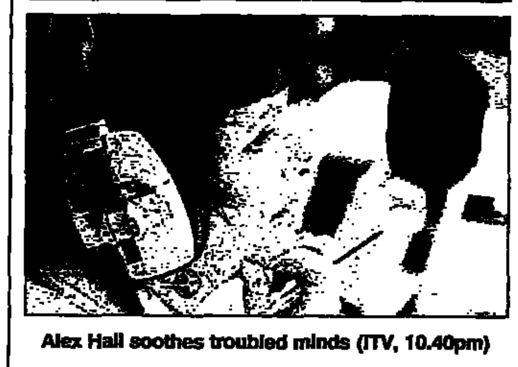
11.25 Equal Before the Law. Do black and Asian people have confidence in the police and courts in Britain? (Ceefax). Followed by **Weather** (448190)

12.05am The Midnight Hour with Sarah Baxter. Political chat show (s) (6962417)

12.35-6.00 The Learning Zone

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CHOICE



Alex Hall soothes troubled minds (ITV, 10.40pm)

Network First: Midnight Callers
ITV, 10.50pm

The lines are open to a Bradford radio station's late night phone-in show. Among the callers are a wife-batterer, a 14-year-old girl who wants to go on the Pill, a bulimia victim, two hopeless alcoholics and a young women terrified that the man who sexually abused her may strike again. Fielding the calls, and trying her best to be undismayed by what she hears, is Alex Hall. We could have done with knowing more about Hall, a heroine if ever there was one, though the programme notes suggest that she deals so well with other people's troubles because she has been through a few herself. But she can also be blunt, telling a man who has been having affairs to avenge himself on his unfaithful wife that he is "absolutely pathetic".

Picture This: No Ordinary People
BBC2, 9.30pm

Revisionist accounts of the French Resistance have tended to downgrade its military importance and question whether it had much of a popular following. Drawing on first-hand accounts of Resistance in the south-east of France this is a more traditional version which stresses bravery and comradeship in face of a hated enemy. We hear from a Jewish couple who fled south with their small daughter after the rest of their family was arrested. We watch a moving pilgrimage to the grave of five British airmen, killed when their Wellington bomber crashed. And we visit a village where 53 men were rounded up by the Germans and shot. One of the victims, who took a bullet through his neck, astonishingly survived to tell the tale.

Grand Designs: The Limit — Trickiest Tunnel
BBC2, 8.00pm

The series celebrating achievements in engineering spends a year with the Jubilee Line extension, the ambitious new addition to the London Underground system. The hazards are awesome. At one end of the line tunnelling could affect the stability of historic buildings such as Big Ben and the clubs of Pall Mall. At the other end, tunnel walls must be made secure against treacherous sand. Hugh Doherty has built tunnels from the Clyde to Hong Kong but the Jubilee Line is something else. Moreover he has been given just four years to complete the project. As work is held up near Waterloo pending a safety inspection, and two tunnelling machines, known as Sharon and Tracey, break down in Docklands, delays begin to mount.

Guns N' Roses — The Photographic History
BBC1, 11.25pm (not Scotland)

Robert John is not a member of the American rock band Guns 'N' Roses, though with his long, unkempt hair and stubbly chin he would fit easily into the line-up. John is the group's resident photographer, and has snapped them since they were unknowns playing to tiny audiences in Los Angeles in the mid-1980s. Not noted for their harmonious relationships with photographers, Axl Rose, Izzy Stradlin and the rest have made an exception for John and he has responded with striking images. The programme talks *to John and the members of the group during their* two-year "Use Your Illusion" tour, and includes footage from their concerts in Barcelona, Tel Aviv and Milton Keynes Bowl. — *Peter Waymark*

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (9588409)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (9837393) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) (9584206)

10.00 The Time... the Place (s) (8454683)

10.35 This Morning (72578645) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) (9232206)

12.30 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (9265770)

12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (9240461) **1.25 Emmerdale** (r) (Teletext) (60397549) **1.55 A Country Practice** (s) (92497664) **2.20 Vanessa** (Teletext) (s) (70646393) **2.50 Capital Woman** (s) (2107935)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (8309751)

3.25 London Today (Teletext) (8308022)

3.30 Giggllsh Allsorts (s) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (6536577) **3.50 Hot Rod Dogs** (s) (5338732) **4.05 The Twisted Tales of Felix the Cat** (5504119) **4.15 The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries** (6857206) **4.40 The Ward** (Teletext) (s) (2516206)

5.10 The Chancellor's Budget — What It Means to You. Dermot Murnaghan is joined by a panel of finance and tax experts. Includes the rest of the day's news with John Suchet (Teletext) (2641157)

5.55 Your Shout Viewers air their views (251954)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (867)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (119)

7.00 Emmerdale. (Teletext) (6954)

7.30 The Tuesday Special: Hoaxers. There are 200,000 hoax telephone calls each year. What sort of person plays these stupid, and sometimes dangerous, pranks? (s) (913)



Russell Boulter and Martin Ball (8.00pm)

8.00 The Bill: Poison. A blackmailer is tampering with food at the local supermarket and Deakin tries to shop him. With Shaun Scott, Kerry Peers and Russell Boulter. (Teletext) (2374)

8.30 The Cook Report. What has happened to more than a million pounds of taxpayers money designed to help Europe's poorest country — Albania? (1409)

9.00 Soldier, Soldier: Under the Skin. The King's Own Fusiliers are on exercise in South Africa. (Teletext) (s) (4225)

10.00 ITN News at Ten and weather (71867)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (267157)

10.40 Budget 95 — The Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke MP (500374)

10.50 **Network First: Midnight Callers.** (Teletext) (242683)

11.50 Prisoner Cell Block H (559770)

12.50am War and Remembrance (r) (6130875) followed by **ITN News** headlines

2.15 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (r) (s) (1578875)

2.40 The Beat (s) (1318078)

3.35 America's Top Ten (s) (18063639)

4.05 The Forum Presents *music from the American duo* England Dan and John Ford Coley (r) (83258523)

4.30 Videofashion (73078)

5.00 Vanessa (r). (Teletext) (s) (51368)

5.30 ITN Morning News (29504). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.30am Ulysses 31 (r) (14119)

7.00 The Big Breakfast. With Max Bygraves (56683)

9.00 The Golden Girls (r). (Teletext) (s) (58916)

9.30 Schools: Eureka! (4371409) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen (4369664) **10.00** Fourways Farm (5215732) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (3272428) **10.25** How We Used to Live (3251935) **10.45** Caraidean (9796136) **11.00** New Living Body (1306913) **11.20** Stage One (6204799) **11.35** Film and Video Showcase (4667022) **11.45** First Edition (4600596)

12.00 House To House. Political magazine (61480)

12.30pm Sesame Street (52119) **1.30 Widget** (r) (s) (25097799) **1.55 How Now Boing, Boing?** Cartoon (15308461)

2.05 FILM: Deep Valley (1947, b/w) starring Ida Lupino and Dane Clark. A melodrama about a lonely and shy young farmer's daughter who falls for a prisoner on the run. Directed by Jean Negulesco (196119)

4.00 Think Tank. Team quiz. (Teletext) (s) (732)

4.30 Fifteen To One (Teletext) (s) (916)

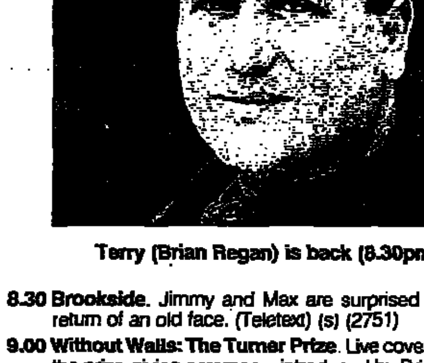
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. The hostess talks about diet and explains how she shed almost five stones (r). (Teletext) (s) (4631225)

5.50 Murun Buchstansangur. Cartoon (241577)

6.00 The Avengers: Escape In Time. Spoof special agent adventures starring Patrick Macnee and Diana Rigg (r). (Teletext) (95935)

7.00 Channel 4 News. A slightly extended edition to provide extra Budget coverage. Includes headlines and weather at 7.30. (Teletext) (6683)

8.00 Dosh. Magazine series about money, presented by self-made millionaire businessman Shami Ahmed. (Teletext) (s) (1356)



Terry (Brian Regan) is back (8.30pm)

8.30 Brookside. Jimmy and Max are surprised by the return of an old face. (Teletext) (s) (2751)

9.00 Without Walls: The Turner Prize. Live coverage of the prize-giving ceremony, introduced by Brian Eno from the Tate Gallery in London (2867)

10.00 FILM: Friends (1993) starring Kerry Fox, Dambisa Kente and Michelle Burgers. An apartheid drama about three young South African women graduates. Directed by Elaine Proctor. (Teletext) (s)(60174954)

12.05am Nurses. Black comedy series set in a Florida hospital. (Teletext) (6980813)

12.35 Football Italia — Mezzanotte. Highlights of the game between Parma and Juventus (7862788)

1.35 World Tennis. Action from the ATP World Tour doubles championship in Eindhoven (6240097)

2.05 Love Stories: Ask For the Moon. A television film romance from Italy about Marco and Elena, who are both in search of Giacomo — Marco's older brother and Elena's boyfriend — who has disappeared, taking with him the best car from Marco's vehicle-hiring company. Although the couple are not particularly attracted to each other, what was planned as a short trip across Italy turns into something longer, and love begins to bloom between them. Starring Giulio Scarpati and Margherita Buy (4524184). Ends at **3.30**

4.00-5.30 Schools: Making Sense of Science (95558)

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: **9.55am-10.00** Anglia News and Weather (9584206) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (9232206) **12.55** Emmerdale (9240461) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (60397549) **2.50-3.20** Marquee (2107935) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (8308022) **6.25** Anglia Weather (492374) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (119) **7.30-8.00** Heirloom (913) **10.30-10.40** Anglia News (267157) **12.50am** Film: Off Beat (6130875) **2.15** The Little Picture Show (4305894) **3.10** The Beat (8695287) **4.05** The New Music (9377417)

CENTRAL
As London except: **9.55-10.00** Central News (9584206) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (9232206) **2.50-3.20** The Lady Killers (2107935) **3.25-3.30** Central News (8308022) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (869848) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (267157) **11.50** Tour of Duty (559770) **4.05am** Jobfinder (9505233) **5.20** Asian Eye (4502691)

GRANADA
As London except: **9.55-10.00** Granada News (9584206) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (9232206) **12.55-1.25** Shortland Street (9240461) **1.25** Home and Away (11783751) **1.50** Vanessa (25075577) **2.20** Simply Delicious at Christmas (70646393) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (2107935) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (8308022) **6.25-7.00** Granada Tonight (869848) **7.30-8.00** The Rock and Goal Years (913) **10.30-10.40** Granada News (267157) **11.50** Time Trax (805461) **12.45am-12.50** Pop Profile (9827875) **4.05-5.00** Jobfinder (9377417)

HTV WEST
As London except: **12.55** Shortland Street (7099577) **1.20** Wish You Were Here (69947006) **2.50-3.20** The New Mr & Mrs Show (2107935) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (119) **7.30-8.00** Fair's Fair (913) **4.05am** Jobfinder (9377417)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (119) **7.30-8.00** The Really Helpful Programme (913) **10.50** European Club Rugby (242683) **11.50** Network First (559770)

MERIDIAN
As London except: **9.55am-10.00** Meridian News and Weather (9584206) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (9232206) **12.55** Emmerdale (9240461) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (60397549) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (2107935) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (8308022) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (867) **6.30-7.00** Home and Away (119) **7.30-8.00** The Vet (913) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News and Weather (267157) **12.50am** Film: Off Beat (6130875) **2.15** The Little Picture Show (4305894) **3.10** The Beat (8695287) **4.05** The New Music (9377417) **5.00** Freescreen (51368)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: **12.55** Emmerdale (9240461) **1.25** Home and Away (60397549) **1.55-2.20** The Young Doctors (92497664) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (2107935) **6.25-7.00** Westcountry Live (869848) **7.30-8.00** South Crofty (913) **4.05am** Jobfinder (9377417)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: **9.55-10.00** Calendar News and Weather (9584206) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News and Weather / Bliedale: Network North (9232206) **12.55** Emmerdale (9240461) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (60397549) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (2107935) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News / Bliedale: Network North (8308022) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (955751) **6.30-7.00** Home and Away (119) **7.30-8.00** Who Do You Do? (913) **10.30-10.40** Calendar News and Weather (267157) **11.50** Film: Rising Damp (275577) **1.25am** The Little Picture Show (1083368) **2.25** Sport AM (8234349) **3.35** The Beat (4281504) **4.30** Jobfinder (40078)

S4C
Starts: **7.00** The Big Breakfast (56683) **9.00** The Golden Girls (58916) **9.30** Schools: Eureka (7260374) **9.50** Archwylio (9555190) **10.00** Fferm Bryn Gwyn (5215732) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (3272428) **10.25** Iawl blwyddyn 7 (3251935) **10.45** Caraidean (9796136) **11.00** The New Living Body (1306913) **11.20** Stage One (6204799) **11.35** Film and Video Showcase (4667022) **11.45** First Edition (4600596) **12.00pm** House to House (61480) **12.30** Gumdrop (87916) **1.00** Slot Meithrin Aoc (99770) **1.30** Australia Wild (19515) **2.00** 21st Century Jet (39428) **3.00** Love in the Afternoon (8770) **4.00** Think Tank (732) **4.30** Saved by The Bell (916) **5.00** 5 Pump: Uned 5 (4732) **5.30** Fifteen To One (596) **6.00** Newyddion (526770) **6.25** Heno (650190) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (629751) **7.25** Glamocs (467848) **7.55** Rygi: Cwpan Rygbi Ewrop (519577) **9.00** Newyddion A'R Gylildeb '95 (470003) **9.50** Dim Tafod: (876751) **10.15** Brookside (118138) **10.45** Rising Damp (115409) **11.15** Heroes of Comedy: Frankie Howerd (172954) **12.15am** Witness: Choirmaster (488436) **1.15** The Turner Prize 1995 (477320) **2.15** Diwedd (622707) **4.00** Schools (95558) **5.30** Diwedd

SATELLITE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE
7.00am DJ Kat (82206) **8.00** Mighty Rangers (28799) **8.30** Jeopardy (10770) **9.00** Court TV (55062) **9.30** Oprah Winfrey (87732) **10.30** Concentration (55026) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (76732) **12.00** Spellbound (21886) **12.30pm** Designing Women (38684) **1.00** Waltons (33119) **2.00** Geraldo (59206) **3.00** Court TV (2393) **3.30** Winfrey (9184312) **4.20** Undun (1815664) **5.00** Star Trek (3645) **6.00** Power Rangers (1157) **6.30** Spellbound (2409) **7.00** LAPD (4374) **7.30** M*A*S*H (1393) **8.00** Nowhere Man (89312) **9.00** Chicago Hope (76848) **10.00** Star Trek (78935) **11.00** Law and Order (96225) **12.00** David Letterman (9012558) **12.45am** The Untouchables (3569417) **1.30** Smouldering Lust (64829) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix (9627726)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (3408645) **10.30** ABC Nightline (55008) **11.00** Business (865770) **1.30pm** CBS News (71683) **2.30** Parliament Live (28770) **3.30** Parliament Live (3515) **4.00** Business (61428) **5.00** Live at Five (90225) **6.30** Adam Boulton (79041) **8.30** Target (7729) **9.00** Business (517461) **11.30** CBS News (21732) **12.30am** ABC News (16726) **1.30** Adam Boulton Replay (84184) **2.30** Worldwide Report (31981) **3.30** Parliament Replay (43726) **4.30** CBS News (89368) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (61504)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am **Showcase** (97932409) **10.00 Toys** (1992) (32480) **12.00 Legend of the White Horse** (1985) (63409) **2.00pm The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh** (1979) (89515) **4.00 The Big Show** (1961) (8577) **6.00 Toys** (1992) (73751) **8.00 Philadelphia** (1993) (85586) **10.00 No Escape** (1993) (55652428) **12.05am Map of the Human Heart** (1993) (722504) **1.55 Secret Sins of the Father** (1993) (447813) **3.30-5.30 Cadillac Girls** (1993) (524455)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
4.00pm The Seven Year Itch (1955) (7409) **6.00 Follow The Fleet** (1936) (62683) **8.00 Horror of Frankenstein** (1970) (74428) **10.00 The Cotton Club** (1984) (40689935) **12.15-3.15am Andrei Rublev** (1966) (88157726)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Tarzan Goes to India (1962) (45139) **8.00 Little Nemo: Adventures in Slumberland** (1993) (71426) **10.00 Little Norse Prince Valiant** (30022) **12.00 Breaking Home Ties** (1987) (54751) **2.00pm 99 River Street** (1953) (91157) **4.00 Little Nemo: Adventures in Slumberland** (1993) (6119) **6.00 A Young Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court** (1994) (43770) **7.30 Special Feature: Goldeneye** (4003) **8.00 Hear No Evil** (1993) (53138) **10.00 Ruby in Paradise** (1993) (36732) **12.00 Accidental Hero** (1992) (91900) **2.00am A Case for Murder** (1993) (251368) **3.35-5.35 Arcade** (1993) (54889788)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL
Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Umbrella Tree (32857935) **6.30** Muppet Babies (27969954) **7.00** Winnie the Pooh (67772770) **7.30** Ducktales (67768577) **8.00** Chip 'n' Dale (82761393) **8.30** Adventures in Wonderland (82760664) **9.00** Fraggle Rock (82751916) **9.30** Pooh Corner (90187190) **10.00** Dumbo's Circus (27950206) **10.30** Quack Attack (82780428) **11.00** Walt Disney Presents (97777225) **12.00** Boy Meets World (82764480) **12.30pm** Thunder Alley (90198206) **1.00** Flipper (90166461) **2.00** Adventures in Wonderland (78693190) **2.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (86507312) **3.00** Fraggle Rock (78612225) **3.30** Winnie the Pooh (86519157) **4.00** Quack Attack (86598664) **4.30** Ducktales (86594848) **5.00** Chip 'n' Dale (78617770) **5.30** Danger Bay (86518428) **6.00** Tarzan (86508041) **6.30** Dinosaurs (86599393) **7.00** The Best of Walt Disney Presents (99783954) **8.00-10.00** FILM: Monkeys, Go Home! (98763190)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Eurogolf (68080) **8.30** Weightlifting (90935) **9.30** Figure Skating (46190) **11.00** Football () **1.00pm** Skiing (67374) **2.30** Speedworld (53515) **4.30** Football (91664) **5.30** Boxing (73732) **6.30** News (3393) **7.00** Motors (36867) **9.00** Football (99225) **10.30** Boxing (11428) **11.30** Snooker (16515) **12.00-12.30am** News (17707)

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Sports (21935) **7.30** Racing (33770) **8.00** Squash (12461) **9.00** Aerobics (43683) **9.30** Max Out (78867) **10.00** Dubai Skins (58003) **12.00** Aerobics (30119) **12.30pm** Football (33041) **2.30** Tarlan (3916) **3.00** Skill Sailing (5409) **3.30** WTA Tennis (8461) **4.00** Watersports (74916) **5.00** Wrestling Mania (9461) **6.00** Sports (4645) **6.30** Pub Quiz (6225) **7.00** Skating (16480) **8.00** Boxing: Dunstan v Andries (73436) **10.00** Sports (31848) **10.30** Boots (86732) **11.30** Pub Quiz (98119) **12.00** Skating (24252) **1.00am** Boxing (98243) **3.00-3.30** Sports (72320)



Richard Gere in *The Cotton Club* (Sky Movies Gold, 10pm)

SKY SPORTS GOLD
10.00pm World Cup Hall of Fame (6280684) **10.30** Golden Gloves (1613577) **12.30-1.00am** Superstars (8194418)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL
4.00am Living Word **5.00** Kenneth Copeland **5.30** Kids TV **5.45** Chronicles of Revival **6.15** Colin Dye **6.45-7.00** Music Television

SKY SOAP
7.00am Guiding Light (1165022) **7.55** As the World Turns (8407312) **8.50** Peyton Place (2388041) **9.20** Days of Our Lives (2983003) **10.10-11.00** Another World (1773374)

SKY TRAVEL
11.00am Globetrotter (2242732) **11.30** Trailside (2243461) **12.00** On Top (5269935) **12.30pm** Franey (1227138) **1.00** Around the World (9925119) **1.30** Travel Guide (1226409) **2.00** Ski (1898664) **3.00** Getaway (6901916) **3.30-4.00** Boomerang (6591515)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL
4.00pm Our Century (2266312) **5.00** History Alive (6925596) **6.00-7.00** Biography (1235157)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL
7.00pm Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (6926225) **7.30** Ray Bradbury (6577935) **8.00-10.00** FILM: The Stranger Within (9554138)

TLC
9.00am Toycraft (8988190) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (2728751) **10.00** Grow Your Greens (4738206) **10.30** Will It Hurt? (8964374) **11.00** Only Human (2352157) **11.45** Draw With Don (25807041) **12.00** The Right Thing? (8906954) **12.30pm** Jimmy's (2739867) **1.00** Madeleine Cooks (5386515) **1.30** Toycraft (2738138) **2.00** Park High (7198480) **2.30** Soul Mates (6095770) **3.00** Grow Your Greens (7117515) **3.30-4.00** Green Fingers (6007515)

UK GOLD
7.00am Angels (5358374) **7.30** Neighbours (5375409) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (8907225) **8.30** EastEnders (8906596) **9.00** The Bill (8887848) **9.30** The Sullivans (2737409) **10.00** A Dorothy L. Sayers Mystery (5384393) **11.00** Dallas (5384157) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (8900312) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2731225) **1.00** EastEnders (5355645) **1.30** The Bill (2730596) **2.00** The Sullivans (83684138) **2.25** Are You Being Served? (6953664) **3.00** Angels (7186645) **3.30** Eldorado (6078645) **4.00** Casualty (19401461) **5.05** Larry Grayson's Generation Game (69196935) **6.15** Kenny's Comic Cuts (1151751) **6.25** EastEnders (8194374) **7.00** Eldorado (7101954) **7.30** Taxi (6085393) **8.00** George and Mildred (8322765) **8.25** Butterflies (9188003) **9.00** Danger UXB (4124515) **10.00** The Bill (6248935) **10.35** Classic Sport (5864138) **11.35** Carrott Confidential (4515596) **12.15am** Dr Who (2538487) **12.45** FILM: Django (5154287) **2.25** Shopping (44599455)

TCC
6.00am Swan's Crossing (22225) **6.30** Pugwall (29684) **7.00** Degrassi (49916) **7.30** Ready or Not (51751) **8.00** Sweet Valley (99886) **8.30** Casper (3184916) **8.45** Dinobabies (3112799) **9.00** Tiny TCC (611670) **12.00** Tiny TCC (819490) **2.30pm** Happily Ever After (7374) **3.00** Sonic (9867) **3.30** Pink Panther (9719) **4.00** California Dreams (1954) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley (7136)

NICKELODEON
6.00am Garbage Pail Kids (7287848) **6.15** Grimmy (7275003) **6.30** Turtles (74175) **7.00** Batfink (9633138) **7.05** Turtles (1078751) **7.45** Rugrats (886312) **8.15** Doug (779596) **8.45** The Ferals (9933003) **9.00** Nick Junior (9388515) **12.30pm** Aaahh!!! Real Monsters (70225) **1.00** Wishbone (28848) **1.30** Mighty Max (79596) **2.00** Speed Racer (4916) **2.30** Rude Dog (4886) **3.00** Count Duckula (6751) **3.30** Littlest Pet Shop (6003) **4.00** Fish and Chips (5138) **4.30** Rugrats (4022) **5.00** Clarissa (8596) **5.30** Nancy Drew (5374) **6.00** Doug (5515) **6.30** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (6867) **7.00** Fish and Chips (8732) **7.30-8.00** Nancy Drew (5751)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Swift and Silent (6427732) **5.00** Out of the Past (7108867) **6.00** Invention (6003799) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (8977138) **7.30** Human/Nature (6083935) **8.00** Azimuth (4102393) **9.00** State of Alert (6423916) **9.30** On the Road Again (2719003) **10.00** Supership (4192916) **11.00-12.00** Discovery Journal (5363664)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: Hell Hunters (83425080) **1.15pm** Honey West (2405954) **2.00** Danger Man (4726461) **3.00** Scotland Yard (7104041) **3.30** Man from Interpol (6094041) **4.00** FILM: Billy the Kid v Dracula (1084393) **5.30** Honey West (6093312) **6.00** Scotland Yard (6090225) **6.30** Department S (8854664) **7.30** The Protectors (6070461) **8.00** Space 1999 (4106119) **9.00** Wild Palms (4119683) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Death Hunt (6434022)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony (7188799) **7.00** Living (2960747) **9.00** Old Garden, New Gardener (4222080) **9.30** Kate and Allie (7825190) **10.00** Hearts of Gold (7710044) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (8831935) **11.55** Food and Drink (2907886) **12.30pm** Brookside (9694503) **1.05** Kilroy (6079480) **2.00** Agony (6550503) **3.00** Living (8747461) **4.00** Infatuation UK (4913206) **4.30** Crosswits (6625683) **5.05** The Joker's Wild (75479935) **5.30** Bewitched (4926770) **6.00** Esther (4923683) **6.30** Brookside (5378022) **7.05** Jerry Springer (9511225) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (8296003) **9.00** FILM: Fatal Judgment (8299190) **11.00-12.00** Dangerous Women

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm The Wonder Years (4312) **5.30** Tintin (1190) **6.00** Batman (8003) **6.30** Catchphrase (2683) **7.00** Through the Keyhole (1848) **7.30** My Two Dads (8867) **8.00** Mystery Movie: Peter Gunn (1989) (47374) **10.00** All Clued Up (60374) **10.30** Neon Rider (28732) **11.30** Batman (49428) **12.00** Adventures of Tintin (42417) **12.30am** Concentration (14146) **1.00** Zorro (29252) **1.30** Rhoda (62455) **2.00** Neon Rider (96184) **3.00** Rhoda (16786) **3.30** Zorro (95320) **4.00** The Wonder Years (16813) **4.30-5.00** The Black Stallion (17417)

MTV
6.30am The Grind (21022) **7.00** 3 from 1 (2246683) **7.15** Awake (6073428) **8.00** VJ Mana (328799) **10.30** Rockumentary (70751) **11.00** Soul (79157) **12.00** Hits (98074) **1.00pm** Music Non-Stop (76519867) **2.45** 3 from 1 (5882472) **3.00** Cinematic (4797041) **3.15** Hanging Out (1347041) **4.00** News (3984480) **4.15** 15 Minutes of Fame (3974003) **4.30** Dial MTV (9596) **5.00** The Worst of Most Wanted (6770) **5.30** Hanging Out (13935) **6.30** Sports (4041) **7.00** Greatest Hits (69596) **8.00** Most Wanted (98770) **9.30** Beavis and Butthead (90003) **10.00** News **10.15** Cinematic (340751) **10.30** Real World London (71480) **11.00** The End? (43041) **12.30am** Night Videos (4779981)

VH-1
7.00am Power Breakfast (9917190) **9.00** Café (7843515) **12.00** Heart and Soul (1208003) **1.00pm** The Vinyl Years (1217751) **2.00** Paul McKenna (1896022) **3.00** Into the Music (4844190) **6.00** ABBA (1237515) **7.00** VH-1 for You (8536732) **8.00** Tuesday Review (9545480) **9.00** Jonathan King (9532916) **10.00** The Vinyl Years (9535003) **11.00** Tommy Vance (3782645) **1.00am** Ten of the Best: Gregory (5372691) **2.00** Dawn Patrol

ZEE TV
7.00am Asian Morning (40966870) **8.30** Countdown to the Cricket World Cup (49028577) **9.00** Gujarati FILM: Pathali Parmal (57695428) **12.00** Dekh Bhai Dekh (49022393) **12.30pm** Manasi (20266645) **1.00** Hindi FILM: Mera Ghar Mere Bache (57440138) **4.30** Nukkad (28321003) **5.00** Zee Zone (69053799) **5.30** Tamil Series: Rail Sneham (28345683) **6.00** India Business Report (28342596) **6.30** Zee and U (28333848) **7.00** Urdu Serial: Tanhaiyan (90036157) **8.00** News (69042683) **8.30** Antakshari (69021190) **9.00-12.00** Hindi FILM. Pehla Nasha (64465409)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT
Continuous cartoons from 5am to 9pm, then TNT films as below.
9.00pm Village of the Damned (1960) (89780003) **11.00 Cause for Alarm** (1951) (56539732) **12.20am A Time to Kill** (1955) (40702146) **1.35 Time Without Pity** (1957) (84607829) **3.10-5.00 The Crooked Sky** (1957) (80159165)

Champions escape punishment for brawl from Uefa

Blackburn fine Le Saux and Batty

BY PETER BALL



Batty throws in to Colin Hendry, rather than Le Saux, during Blackburn's goalless draw with Arsenal on Sunday. Photograph: Mark Leech

WITH David Batty's agreement and Uefa's acquiescence, Blackburn Rovers brought the curtain down on one of the unhappiest episodes in their European travails yesterday. Batty and Graeme Le Saux have been fined a total believed to be £20,000 and have apologised for the brawl that disfigured Blackburn's 3-0 defeat by Spartak in Moscow last Wednesday.

Batty, who was initially aggrieved at the threat of a fine, feeling that he had not thrown a punch, unlike his England colleague, had asked for the weekend to mull things over. He agreed to accept the punishment before the game at Highbury on Sunday, paving the way for a club statement yesterday.

"Both Graeme Le Saux and David Batty deeply regret their actions and have offered their unreserved apologies to the club, the fans and football in general," the statement read.

Lawrence dismissed 44
Ajax put to test 44

"The club, recognising the serious nature of the situation, has informed both players that the club cannot condone such behaviour and, having taken into account their respective actions, has fined both players accordingly."

Le Saux is believed to have been fined the maximum two weeks' wages; Batty may have escaped with a slightly lesser fine. Ray Harford, the Blackburn manager, has insisted that the players will be staying at the club and Blackburn's performance on Sunday suggested that the champions can now put the sorry episode behind them.

"I have spoken to them but they have really sorted it out between themselves," Harford said. "They will be staying with us. I am happy with the spirit in the dressing-room."

Until yesterday afternoon, there were fears that the affair might linger on until a Uefa disciplinary meeting in January, with the possibility that the players, or the club, could face further punishment from football's European governing body. That fear has now been removed because Pierluigi Pairetto, the referee, made no mention of the incident in his report.

"We will respect the referee's opinion that it was not worthy of further action," Peter Limacher, a Uefa disciplinary committee spokesman, said. "It was mentioned in passing by the Uefa delegate, but we do not ask them to make recommendations."

If that offers comfort to Blackburn, it may be embarrassing for the Football Association, which wrote to Uefa asking it to take action, a response which seemed hasty at the time. It now looks ill-judged.

The game against Arsenal on Sunday has also produced disciplinary problems and puzzles for Blackburn, who had four players booked, including Lars Bohinen, for a tackle on Glenn Helder that most observers — and the television cameras — suggested was committed by Tim Sherwood, who collected his sixth yellow card of the season a few minutes later and now faces a two-match ban. Blackburn could appeal and have Bohinen's booking wiped off, but to do so could expose Sherwood.

"It has been discussed, but we will have to take a look at the video of the game before making any decision," a club spokesman said.

Bohinen and Henning Berg may soon have a third Scandinavian alongside them in the champions' ranks. A Stockholm newspaper reported that the Sweden striker, Niklas Budmunsson, is joining Blackburn on loan from Halmstad, with a view to a permanent signing in March.

Sherwood is not the only captain facing suspension. Garry Flitcroft's booking against Wimbledon last Wednesday also took him past 21 disciplinary points and he faces a three-match ban, missing Manchester City's visit to the Riverside Stadium, Middlesbrough, and home games with Nottingham Forest and Chelsea.

City's fortunes have improved in recent weeks, but Liverpool's have declined swiftly since they beat them 4-0 and 6-0 in the space of four days. For the first time since he replaced Graeme Souness as manager, Roy Evans is under pressure as Liverpool, who have taken only one point from their past four league matches, prepare to meet Newcastle United in the fourth round of the Coca-Cola Cup at Anfield tomorrow.

"Of course these are worrying times," Evans conceded, "but we've got to think positive. If we have negative thoughts, then we've got problems. We have to get our belief back and show resilience. With the talent we have here, it will come round, and if we beat Newcastle, everyone will be buzzing again."

Lara pulls out of tour party at last minute

BY SIMON WILDE

BRIAN LARA was just seven years old when he first announced, to his sister Agnes, that he wanted to be the world's greatest cricketer. Having been able to lay an unarguable claim to that title for 18 months, the question now, after he yesterday turned down the offer of lucrative employment for the second time in a month, is whether he still wants to be.

While the West Indies players to tour Australia were in a Heathrow airport hotel last night, sleeping off jet-lag while they awaited visa clearance, Lara was at home in his beloved Trinidad, having faxed the West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC) with the news that he would not be joining the tour.

The repercussions of this act could be immense. Last week Lara was fined, along with three colleagues, for ill-discipline during the tour of England last summer, in Lara's case for leaving the team for several days in August, shortly after the Old Trafford Test match, and being close to pulling out of the last month of the tour.

Now he has actually pulled out of a tour, even if it is ostensibly less important, one whose purpose is to use the World Series Cup, a triangular limited-overs tournament also involving Australia and Sri Lanka, as preparation for the World Cup in February.

Lara, 26, had warned the board last week that he was contemplating missing the Australia tour. Fortunately for him, because of a delay over fees — another issue that may cause West Indies cricket heartache in the coming months — he had not signed his tour contract. That legal loophole is unlikely to save him from punishment.

Peter Short, the WICBC president, who spoke to Lara at length over the weekend and believed he had succeeded in impressing upon the team's most important player the need for his presence in Australia, said yesterday that he believed Lara's decision was connected to his fine but that would "not deter us from taking action".

Short added: "I think he is genuinely tired. The pressures on and off the field have been considerable and the demands of his commercial enterprises have played their part. He was terribly disappointed to be fined by a disciplinary committee. He felt let down by that. He had not exactly gone absent without leave in England but he did say 'Listen, I've had enough, I can't go on.' But we managed to get him back."

Short was not prepared to discuss yesterday what action the WICBC might take against Lara. Although it might baulk at barring him from the World Cup, it must be clearly disappointed at becoming embroiled in another dispute.

Apart from the fines imposed last week, Winston Benjamin was sent home during the England tour for not pulling his weight and earlier this year West Indies were beaten in a Test series for the first time in 15 years. No wonder Short said: "We seem to live from crisis to crisis." Meanwhile Wes Hall, the manager, slumbered in his hotel bed, waiting for news from the board and unaware that Roland Holder had been called up to take Lara's place.



Lara: staying home

Since playing the highest innings in Test and first-class history last year, Lara has shown an increasing reluctance to play. He absented himself several times for Warwickshire in 1994, arrived late for a tour of India and four weeks ago pulled out of his contract with Warwickshire for 1996.

Even Joey Carew, one of Lara's mentors, was unable to cajole his protege into going to Australia. Lara appears to be listening to decreasingly few people these days, only an inner voice that tells him to escape, escape.

WEST INDIES PARTY: R B Richardson (captain), J C Adams, C E L Ambrose, I R Bishop, C O Browne, S L Campbell, S Chanderpaul, A C Cummins, O D Gibson, R A Harper, R I C Holder, C L Hooper, P V Simmons, C A Walsh, S C Williams.

Meeting of minds eludes Chelsea

BY ALYSON RUDD

CHELSEA'S match against Tottenham Hotspur on Saturday represented the football club's final home fixture before a board meeting, scheduled for December 7, which promises to rattle the power structure at Stamford Bridge.

That match did little for Chelsea's FA Carling Premiership ambition, other than to confirm them as the league's median team, having won five, drawn five and lost five games so far this season.

However, the fixture did rather more for Matthew Harding's standing in the publicity stakes as the Chelsea director steps up his assault on Ken Bates's control of the club. For a start, Harding turned up. The Chelsea chairman has had pneumonia and learnt of Harding's escapades from his staff and the media.

And what escapades they were. Banned by Bates from the directors' and players' areas, Harding was forced to adopt Pierce Brosnan's cunning and sneak past the security guards to meet with Glenn Hoddle, the Chelsea manager, in his office after the game.

But when Hoddle — appointed by Bates "before I knew Harding existed", the chairman reminded reporters in his programme notes on Saturday — is prepared effectively to defy Bates's orders, no matter how ludicrous they may appear, a resolution has to be found.

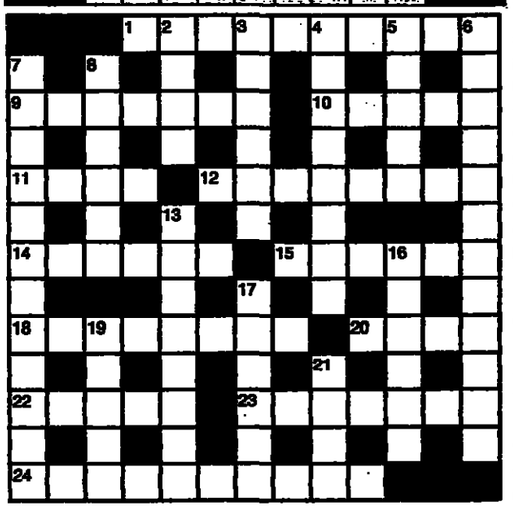
There are three roots to that. Bates and Harding could kiss and make up. That is the least likely scenario. Harding could buy Bates out but it is unlikely the two protagonists would agree on the price. Finally, Harding could try to glean damaging information about the way that Bates controls the club.

Chelsea Village now owns Chelsea Football Club and Bates controls those shares in the Village he does not actually own. The transfer of liabilities from the club to the Village was investigated by the administrative receivers of the club, but no action was taken.

As long as Bates claims anonymity for his consortium members, stories, such as the *News of the World* "exposé" that a former arms dealer is among them, will continue to blight Bates's already zany copy-book.

The board meeting next week should provide some answers but the chances are that relations between the chairmen and directors of Chelsea have a lot more deterioration ahead.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 638

ACROSS
1 Untrustworthy debtor (3-2-5)
9 Get one's way (7)
10 Press and broadcasting (5)
11 With nothing to do (4)
12 Ibsen/Grieg verse drama (4,4)
14 Bargain over price (6)
15 Sikh headgear (6)
18 Mail from eg holidaymaker (8)
20 Fan; polish (4)
22 *Ram* star-sign (5)
23 A wide boy (7)
24 Bizarre (10)

DOWN
2 Burden (4)
3 Artistic dance (6)
4 Plentiful (8)
5 With head swimming (5)
6 Hand-held bread browner (8-4)
7 Home-sized keyboard instrument (7,5)
8 Post-flight disorientation (3,3)
13 Europe/Asia inland lake (5,3)
16 Eject; dishonour; spring (6)
17 Stiffened; prepared (for impact) (6)
19 Spell of work; be mean (with) (5)
21 Trousers; I claim! (4)

SOLUTION TO No 637
ACROSS: 1 Scorch 5 Flabby 8 Stew 9 Nocturne 10 Crouch 12 Romp 15 Machiavellian 16 Flee 17 One-two 19 Ordinand 21 Whig 22 Staged 23 Nether
DOWN: 2 Caterwaul 3 Raw 4 Henchman 5 Fact 6 Aquarelle 7 Bin 11 Unheeding 13 Meanwhile 14 Beholden 18 Bald 20 Rut 21 Wit

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King leaps up line of succession

David Hands considers the promotion of a university student to become England stand-off half in waiting

FROM the moment that Rob Andrew stepped down from international rugby last month, debate has raged over his successor as the England stand-off half. Mike Catt wore the No 10 shirt against South Africa ten days ago and will doubtless do so again when England play Western Samoa at Twickenham on December 16 but, yesterday, the name of Alex King entered the lists.

You have to be a keen student of rugby union form to know King's pedigree, but those at Kingsholm last Saturday saw the Bristol University student launch the South West's back division with considerable aplomb. Under the severe eye of Jack Rowell, the England manager, it was enough to earn him a place in the England A side to play the Samoans at Gateshead on December 12.

King will be joined by another divisional debutant this season, Phil Greening, the Gloucester hooker; both players, replacements for England's under-21 international with Ireland earlier this month, have leapfrogged ahead of more experienced players, such as Paul Grayson, of Northampton, and Simon Mitchell, of Harlequins, thanks to the much-abused CIS divisional championship and the desire of the England management to find talent they can fast-track towards international status.

King, 20, is one of those rarities, a player who not only does not feature in the first-division club ranks but concentrates his efforts upon university rugby. Schooled in Hove and at Brighton College, he won four England colts caps last year as a member of Rosslyn Park before beginning a degree course in economics and accountancy at Bristol.

He is part of a talented university back division which includes the Bristol club centre and England Under-21 captain, Mark Denney, and the promising Fraser Waters. Both King and Waters have already been approached to join Gloucester but Bob Reeves, director of sport at Bristol University, derives considerable pleasure from King's A-team selection straight from student rugby.

"So often players are told they must play in the first division if they want to get on, yet we find that the first division does not produce players good enough to take on the South Africans and New Zealanders," Reeves said. "There are so many commitments for players and, if they are doing a serious degree course, they can't always afford the time first-division clubs require."

ENGLAND A (v Western Samoa, December 12): T Stimpson (West Hartlepool); J Sleightholme (Bath), N Greenstock (Wasps), P Mensah (Harlequins), J Naylor (Orrell); A King (Bristol University) A Gomersall (Wasps), K Yates (Bath), P Greening (Gloucester), D Garforth (Leicester), M Corry (Bristol), G Archer (Bristol), R West (Gloucester), R Hill (Saracens), A Diprose (Saracens, captain). Replacements: A Blyth (West Hartlepool), W Greenwood (Harlequins), A Healey (Orrell), D Crompton (Bath), S Mitchell (Harlequins), R Jenkins (Harlequins).



King: caps for England colts

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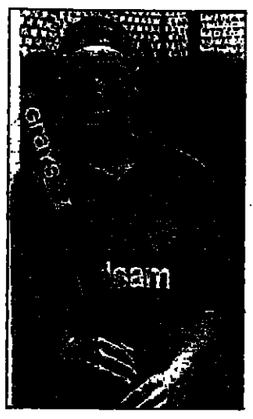
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CRICKET



25
Injury takes shine off England victory

SCHOOLS SPORT



29
Studied approach earns pupil top hockey honours

RUGBY UNION



30
Welsh out in force to mark Lomu's arrival

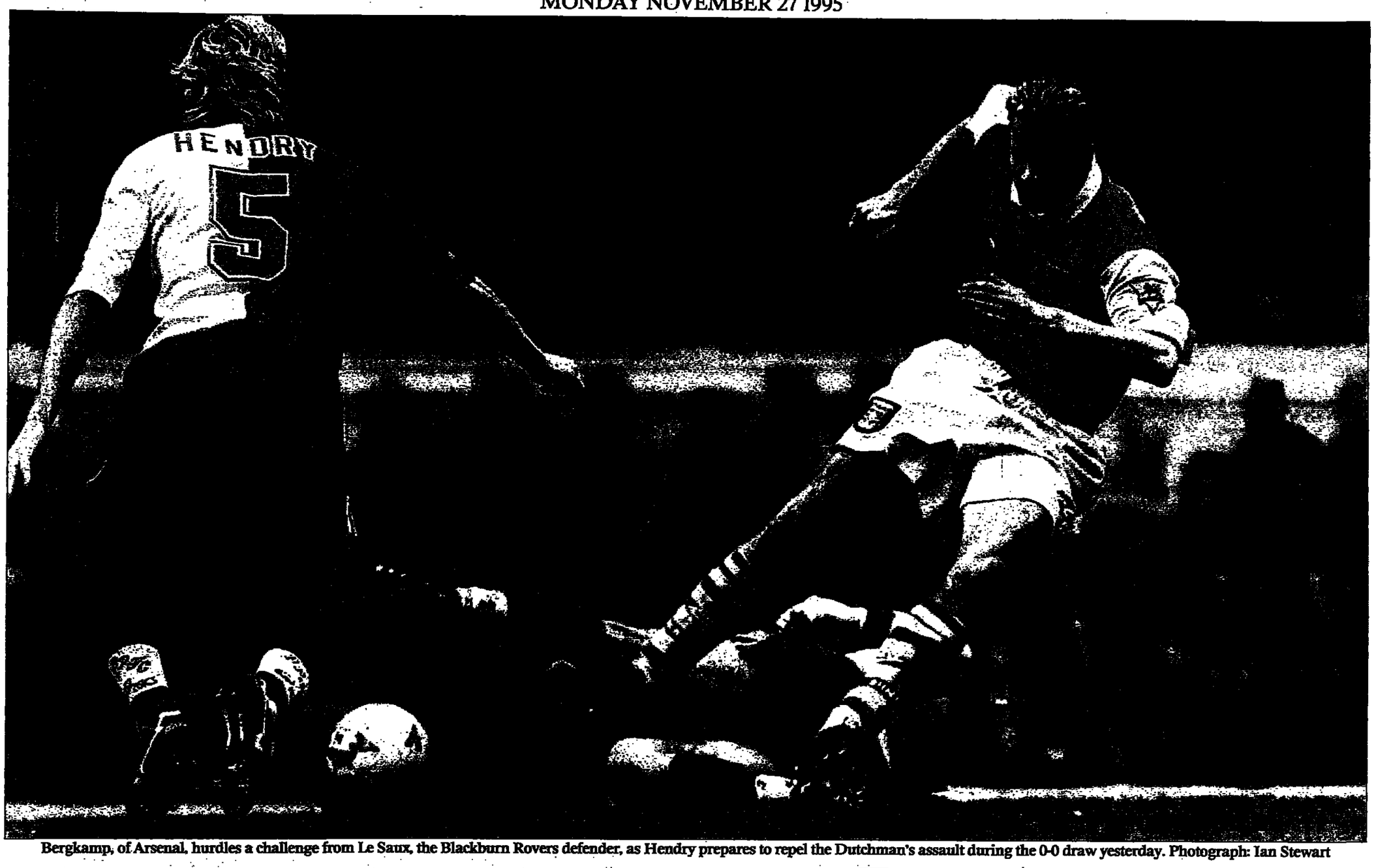
SPORT FOR ALL



33
Climbing back in the saddle after 20 years

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY NOVEMBER 27 1995



Bergkamp, of Arsenal, hurdles a challenge from Le Saux, the Blackburn Rovers defender, as Hendry prepares to repel the Dutchman's assault during the 0-0 draw yesterday. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Celebration of Rioch's entertaining style falls flat

Arsenal lose their touch

Arsenal 0
Blackburn Rovers 0

By David Miller

THE chairman picked the wrong occasion to celebrate. Making one of his rare contributions to the Highbury matchday programme, Peter Hill-Wood said that Arsenal were more entertaining under Bruce Rioch, their new manager. "I look forward to matches," he proclaimed. "It's exciting." Well, not yesterday, unfortunately. Not by a long way.

A dull autumn day was no less grey after a goalless draw, though Arsenal, especially in the second half, were good enough to have won and maintain pressure on Manchester United, second in the FA Carling Premiership, who play tonight in Nottingham.

Glenn Helder, replacing the injured Keown after half-an-hour, brought some sparkle on the left and produced the best shot of the match, marvellously turned away at full length by the diving Flowers just after the hour. That was worth three points.

It is reassuring to have even the Arsenal chairman acknowledge that the football under George Graham, the previous manager, was, perhaps, not the prettiest, a view widely held for a long time by those not affiliated to the club. It is certainly true, however, that Arsenal are playing as much of a touch game under Rioch's direction as any team. Blackburn Rovers, looking more like the champions than they have in recent months, gave Arsenal their familiar wasp-swarm treatment: tenacious, smothering, crowding, stinging.

As Rioch said afterwards, Blackburn removed the space to give and receive passes, and made it the least smooth of Arsenal's 15 performances this season. For Blackburn, it was a necessary antidote to their abysmal midweek display in Moscow, that had been compounded by the bizarre physical feud between Le Saux and Batty.

Yesterday, playing within passing — as opposed to punching — distance of each other, the left back and left midfield player appeared to be in relative harmony, temperamentally and tactically, and combined to quell the ever-dangerous Merson.

The limitation of Batty's forward distribution will, however, continue to impede any venture in the loftier European environment, never mind the compensatory arrival from Nottingham Forest of the fluent Bohinen, who cleverly varied Blackburn's point of attack.

Ray Harford, the Blackburn manager, who is struggling to preserve the house that Jack (Walker) built with Kenny Dalglish, rightly thought that, considering the week that his team had just had, they deserved a point for their resolution. He categorically denied rumours that there was dressing-room unrest between manager and players — well, he would — irrespective of the Batty-Le Saux affair. Details of the club's action regarding that incident would be clarified, he said, by a statement from the chairman today.

Arsenal, of course, were still without the suspended Wright, who returns against Sheffield Wednesday in the fourth round of the Coca-Cola Cup on Wednesday. Yet, on this evidence, there must be some concern about the uneven form of Platt. The England captain is having a lean time on the ball, in his supposedly penetrating role just behind Bergkamp. In spite of 13 goals from Wright and Bergkamp, Arsenal are scoring less than other teams in the top half of the table.

There were seven bookings, four for Blackburn. While it was not a dirty match, I am disinclined to criticise Graham Poll, the referee, who was merely attempting to keep physical excess in check between two teams renowned for their hard edge, and he succeeded in doing so.

Sherwood, in fact, was fortunate not to be sent off for two bookable offences.

Nine minutes before half-time, Bohinen was erroneously booked for a foul on Helder that had been perpetrated by the Blackburn captain, who, seven minutes later, was shown the yellow card for another offence against Helder.

From early on, Blackburn's counter-attacking was occasionally dangerous. Dixon did well to smother Newell only four yards from the line as they lunged to meet Ripley's low cross and it was close to being a penalty when Bould brought down Le Saux off the ball shortly before the interval.

All the while, Arsenal were trying to make the ball work, Bergkamp having a fascinating duel with the rugged Hendry. In the 45th minute, Merson, accelerating swiftly through midfield, held off Sherwood in the tackle and sent a floated, back-spinning shot that Flowers did well to turn away for a corner.

Arsenal came out for the second half full of purpose. Dixon, who is exhibiting a constructive streak that we longed for in the past when he represented England, created a chance for Hartson, who forced Flowers to push the ball round the post.

Now, Helder began to test Blackburn's right flank, manned by Ripley and Kenna. After beating two men and being forced wide for a corner, he then cut through again and an early cross-shot from the edge of the penalty area all but caught Flowers by surprise, his superb save being equal to the moment.

Neither side was secure; Bohinen, suddenly moving forward past two tackles, shot straight at Seaman, then Merson hit a deep cross that Hartson, on the far post, headed just wide.

In the final minutes, Seaman saved superbly one-handed from Newell's close-range header and Platt, at the other end, with the goal open, headed a cross from Merson straight at Flowers.

It had been endlessly tense and frustrating for a 37,000 crowd and, in that irritating way in which play is viewed by professionals, ultimately satisfying for both sides.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dixon, A Adams, S Bould, N Winterburn — D Hillier, P Merson, D Platt, M Keown (sub: G Helder, 32min) — J Hartson (sub: P Dickov, 80), D Bergkamp.
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — J Kenna, H Berg, C Hendry, G Le Saux — S Ripley, T Sherwood, L Bohinen, D Batty — A Shearer, M Newell.
Referee: G Poll.

Cup win for Aberdeen 26
Juninho sparkles 26
Resilient Newcastle 27

HOW THE CHAMPIONS HAVE FALTERED AWAY FROM HOME

Blackburn's poor away form following their championship success echoes that of Leeds United, who failed to win an away match in 1992-3, the season after they won the title.

Season	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	%	Position
1992-3	21	7	7	7	30	28	28	44.4	4th
1993-4	21	13	6	2	38	16	45	59.7	2nd
1994-5	21	11	6	4	28	15	39	57.1	1st
1995-6	8	1	3	4	7	11	6	8.3	13th

Blackburn's results this season:
Sheffield Wednesday (L 2-1), Liverpool (L 3-0), West Ham (D 1-1), Everton (L 1-0), Newcastle (L 4-0), and Arsenal (D 0-0)

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For the life you don't yet know

ALLIED DUNBAR

BBC challenge Channel 4's right to rain



MATTHEW BOND

TV ACTION REPLAY

On Channel 4's *Morning Line*, Jim McGrath had something important to tell us — Newbury racecourse had had almost an inch of rain overnight. A little later, he apologised — someone from the course had just rung to tell them it was 0.3 of an inch of rain that had fallen, not 0.8. McGrath was not wrong, he was just early.

By the time the BBC was ready to bring us the Hennessy Gold Cup in *Grandstand*, it looked like 0.8 of a foot of rain had fallen on Newbury. One Man had been withdrawn, the red carpet had turned a muddy brown and cameras were misting up all over the place. Things were not going according to schedule.

Which was a shame, because over recent months there has been a marked improvement in the BBC's racing coverage. A little while ago, I expressed the opinion that Channel 4 Racing had transformed television coverage of racing. Someone at the BBC clearly agreed, for the corporation's coverage now very much echoes that provided by its upstart cousin.

As its award-winning coverage of the Grand National consistently shows, the BBC's racing team has always excelled on the big occasion. But it was the coverage of evening meetings over the summer that first showed fresh ideas being introduced to its general racing coverage.

Not only did it successfully capture the full atmosphere of the meeting, but a determined and commendable bid was made to win new viewers by using a small panel of eloquent experts to explain much of the mystery and jargon with which racing surrounds itself. The result was some very enjoyable and, in my case, quite educational television.

But no amount of innovation could have coped with what the weather threw at Newbury on Saturday afternoon. That said, the vehicle-mounted camera captured some wonderful pictures of Rough Quest's magnificent jumping down the far side, while the rail side camera provided a splendid slow motion replay of Dean Gallagher's mud-splattered run-in on Couldnt Be Better. Sadly, the only sight of One Man was a shot of him quietly nibbling the grass outside his stable.

But there is, as always, room for improvement. In Richard Pitman, the BBC has a relaxed and personable front man. He should be allowed to get on with it, rather than having to engage in rather awkward question and answer sessions with Steve Rider back in the studio.

Alongside him, Peter Scudamore is still the novice learning a new part-time trade. But once the pair get into gear, they make a reasonable fist of discussing the form. By contrast in Channel 4's coverage from Newcastle, McGrath and John Oaksey sounded like they had been doing it for years — which, of course, they have.

For long races over jumps it might also be an idea if Pitman and Scudamore contributed to the commentary, particularly during the sort of dreary first circuits that can challenge the commentary skills of even Peter O'Sullevan.

Although Channel 4 Racing was at Newcastle and Punchestown, it still gave the Hennessy a thoroughly enjoyable show on the *Morning Line*, confirming my belief that one of the best sports programmes on television should always go with the big race of the day, regardless of whether or not it is one that Channel 4 has coverage of.

Not only did it have Tony Dobbin, the jockey who missed out on One Man through injury, as a guest, but with an impressive display of prescience it had a telephone interview with Charlie Brooks, trainer of Couldnt Be Better and Padre Mio, winner of Channel 4's feature race, the Bellway Homes "Fighting Fifth" Hurdle.

And while Pitman did well with his interview with Gordon Richards, trainer of One Man, for the BBC, for the full betting implications of the horse's withdrawal you were better off with Alastair Down on Channel 4. But perhaps that was a little bit of broadcasting *schadenfreude*.

Chinese are embroiled in new drugs controversy

FROM CRAIG LORD IN RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

THE tally of 11 positive drug tests among Chinese swimmers, seven of which were recorded in October last year, swelled to 19 yesterday as it emerged that China had, until this year, kept secret from the sport's international governing body eight steroid cases going back to 1990.

On the eve of an extraordinary congress here called to tackle the crisis, *The Times* obtained a copy of a report listing the names of the eight, including two women who had been ranked in the top 20 in the world but had never raced outside China.

The names of the four women and four men, according to the Chinese, were reported to the International Olympic Committee (IOC). However, neither China nor the IOC informed the International Swimming Federation (Fina) at the time of the positive tests. China claims that each of the eight has served, or is serving, a two-year suspension. There were three cases in 1990, two in 1992, one in 1993 and two last year.

The report was written after the Fina meeting in Bangkok in March, but was not released publicly, nor was any statement on the eight "new" cases issued. A Fina source said yesterday that officials and medical officers have known of the eight since a party returned from China in March to declare that the problem was not a state-run drugs programme in the East German mode, but rather a series of coincidental cases of abuse.

None of the eight has been officially suspended by Fina. While two among the eight were of relatively high standard, the others were not of international calibre. A second source at Fina said: "To be honest, we were so astounded we really couldn't quite take it in. Most of these swimmers have never been out of China — we don't know their names, faces, anything about them."

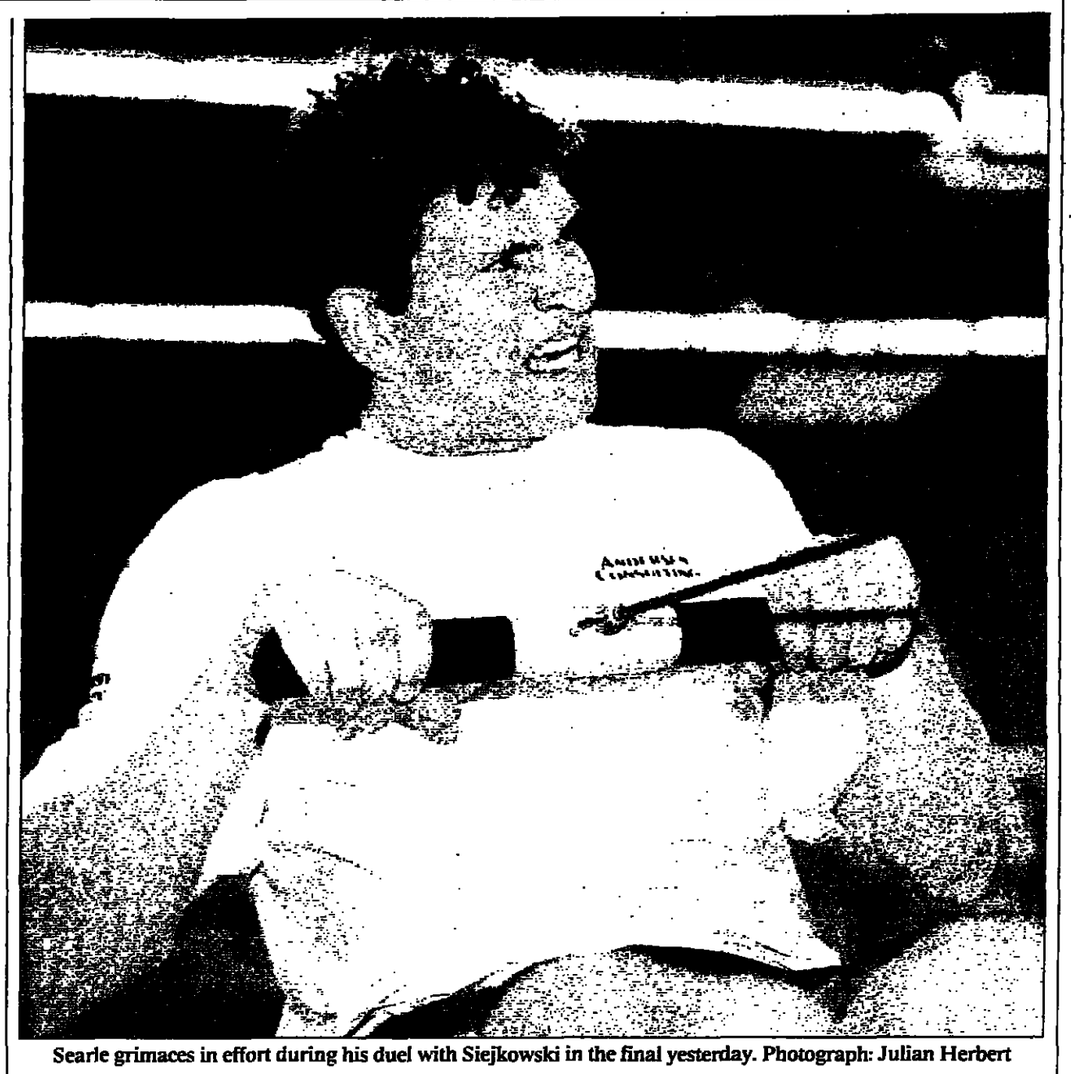
Gunnar Werner, the honorary secretary of Fina, said that the Chinese should have reported the cases, but that he believed that they had not done so out of ignorance rather than malice. "It's a question of education," he said yesterday. "I don't think they realised. At least, I hope that is the case."

As to why the eight tests were not made public when the report was published to members in March, Werner said that it was important to note that "we did not start the serious offensive [against drugs] until last year and, to China's credit, they did tell us when we went there."

However, the tone of the report suggests that its authors were cynical about what they were being told by their Chinese hosts, with facts and figures consistently contradicted.

Coaches and officials from Australia, Canada and the United States called on Fina in 1993 to take a tougher line on drugs and recognise China as a problem apart given the vast number of positive tests. In the past three years, Chinese women have led the world.

In a further embarrassment to Fina, Zhou Ming, who was coach to two of the suspended Chinese swimmers and is consequently serving a 12-month suspension imposed earlier this year, has arrived in Brazil as part of the Chinese team for the world short-course championships that begin here on Thursday.



Searle grimaces in effort during his duel with Siejkowski in the final yesterday. Photograph: Julian Herbert

Searle's indoor endurance gives way

BY MIKE ROSEWELL, ROWING CORRESPONDENT

MATTHIAS SIEJKOWSKI, the world indoor rowing champion from Germany, brought seven hours of competition by 620 indoor rowers to a spectacular conclusion yesterday when beating Greg Searle in the British open championship final by four seconds.

Searle, an Olympic gold medal-winner in 1992, was one of four present Great Britain internationals in the ten-man final line-up, the standard of which was demonstrated by the fact that Searle's elder brother and fellow Olympian, Jonny, failed to qualify.

Siejkowski and Searle were neck-and-neck to the 1,000 metre half-distance before Searle edged ahead by half a length at 1,500 metres as the crowd at the Richmead Leisure Complex, Reading, screamed for his traditional fast finish. However, it was the German champion, two stones the heavier, who found something extra, passing the Briton, who was totally spent, at the close. "I could not respond," Searle said.

Tom Westerling, the young Etonian who won the 1995 National Schools sculling title and later represented his native Norway in the world junior championships, excelled by edging third place from Tim Foster, Searle's Great Britain coxless four crew-mate. Westerling had taken the junior title only two hours earlier yesterday.

Sarah Winckless, 6ft 4in and already the holder of seven Blues at Cambridge for athletics and rowing, won the women's open championship yesterday in spite of being somewhat under par after a bout of flu. She is clearly in the frame for another rowing Blue this year and is also aiming to add basketball to her list of accomplishments.

Results, page 34

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Baird reaches final after yachts collide

ROY HEINER, of Holland, and Ed Baird, of the United States, won through to the final of the world match-racing yachting championships to be held in Auckland last night. Heiner beat Rod Davis, of New Zealand, who had dominated the opening stages of the championship, in the semi-finals on Saturday.

Baird's defeat of Bertrand Pace, of France, the defending champion, was achieved in dramatic circumstances. Having reached the best-of-five semi-final with two successes each, their boats were involved in a collision in the deciding race. Baird was awarded his place in the final after judges made a ruling.

Davis had taken a 2-0 lead over Heiner, but, with the westerly wind picking up, Heiner put in excellent work to level the score at 2-2 and then went on to triumph 3-2. "It finally started coming good for us," Heiner said. "I started coming off the start line better, getting my guys into the position where they could call the shifts rather than responding to Davis."

Koch's troubles, page 11

Whitaker riding high

EQUESTRIANISM: Michael Whitaker, of Great Britain, secured his first success of the Volvo World Cup season on Saturday night when he won the Berlin qualifying event with Everest Midnight Madness. Whitaker's victory in a jump-off came in the sixth of 14 European qualifiers leading up to the final in Geneva in April. It was the first win by a Briton in the present series and relegated two German riders to second and third places on home soil.

Franke Sloothaak, riding Patrignano Weihaiwej, finished 1.58sec slower than Whitaker with a clear round and Carsten-Otto Nagel was just behind on Weiner Wirbel. John Whitaker, on Everest Welham, had a faster time than Michael in the jump-off but a fence down relegated him to sixth place.

Khan wins decisively



SQUASH: Jansher Khan, right, the holder, won his fifth Pakistan Open title in Karachi yesterday with a 15-9, 15-12, 15-8 victory over Rodney Eyles, of Australia, in the final. Khan, 28, took 43 minutes to defeat the second-seeded Australian and keep the title he first won in 1987 from fellow Pakistani, Jahangir Khan. The match was very one-sided as Eyles failed to match Khan's skill.

Panthers bound to top

ICE HOCKEY: With a 4-2 win over Cardiff Devils, Nottingham Panthers joined the Welsh side at the top of the British League premier division. Simon Hunt scored two of Nottingham's goals to confirm his excellent form and Scott O'Connor gave another strong performance in their goal. Sheffield Steelers were surprisingly held to a 3-3 draw by Milton Keynes Kings. Swindon Wildcats caused the upset of the week in the first division, beating Manchester Storm 10-6. They exposed Manchester's defensive shortcomings and scored three times in 76 seconds in the third period.

First for Knowles

BADMINTON: Peter Knowles, the England No 8, won his first world grand prix tournament title when he beat Jim Laugesen, from Denmark, the former European junior champion, in straight games at the Glasgow Scottish Open yesterday. On the final point, Laugesen claimed that he had not been ready to receive Knowles's service, that had landed in, but Tony Taylor, the umpire, disagreed and awarded the match to Knowles 15-11, 15-7. Knowles scored his first victory over Darren Hall, the England No 2 and former European champion, in the semi-finals.

Allcock triumphs

BOWLS: Tony Allcock, the world outdoor singles champion, won the Hughes Mushrooms International mixed singles indoor tournament at Belfast yesterday, when he defeated Graham Robertson, a dour Scot, 7-4, 4-7, 3-7, 7-5, 7-4, in the final. Though quaintly named, the tournament attracted many of the sport's leading figures. Allcock had eliminated Margaret Johnston, the women's world outdoor singles champion, while Robertson had surprised Allcock's indoor counterpart, Andy Thomson, beating him 7-5, 7-5, 1-7, 5-7, 7-0, in a marathon semi-final.

Price seals narrow win



GOLF: Nick Price, right, won his first Zimbabwe Open title by one shot after a closing round of 65, seven under par, at Royal Harare yesterday. Price, 38, had to fend off a brave challenge from Brenden Pappas, of South Africa, who shot 66, before completing a tournament record aggregate of 266. "It's a wonderful feeling; I'm just so happy to have won in front of my home crowd," Price said.

Lilley's losing streak

SNOOKER: David Lilley, of England, lost six successive frames to surrender the Embassy world amateur championship in Bristol yesterday. Lilley, 19, held an overnight 7-5 lead against Sakchai Sim-Ngam, of Thailand, but lost the final 11-7 after being worn down by Sakchai's patience. Lilley said: "I feel a bit sick, but I didn't deserve to win. He didn't let me in. Sakchai said: "Six straight frames in a world final is unbelievable."

Midlands keep title

LACROSSE: Midlands proved themselves the superior group of universities when they won all their five games to retain the British Universities Sports Association women's trophy for the third successive year at the annual tournament in Sheffield at the weekend. They pounded in 40 goals with only 20 against, beating South 8-4 and Loxbridge (London, Oxford and Cambridge) 8-3 in the two deciding games of the tournament.

Battle to finish

WATER POLO: Lancaster and Bristol seem set to battle it out until the final day of the national league. The two fixtures between the teams, who lie first and second, respectively, in the table will take place on consecutive weekends next month. Both teams have unbeaten records. Lancaster, though, have played one game more — and drawn that — against Nova. They do, however, appear to have an easier run-in, with Bristol their biggest threat.

Fast Fahey dominates Deuchar

ROBERT FAHEY, the world champion from Australia, won the British Open real tennis championship by beating Lachie Deuchar, his compatriot, in a final that underlined his dominance.

Fahey, who defends his world title in March, looked sharp and motivated, attacking the ball and countering Deuchar's fine retrieving with sharply cut cross-court volleys and forces.

Fahey's return of service was particularly impressive and he scored a string of short chases while Deuchar, after losing the first set, became increasingly frustrated at his inability to kill the ball and received his second warning of the tournament for bad behaviour.

Although Deuchar took the opening game of the first set, Fahey raised the pace, showing an electrifying turn of speed. Despite a valiant rearguard action from Deuchar when 4-2 down, his heroics were unable to prevent Fahey's victory.

Chris Bray and Mike Gooding, of Great Britain, the favourites, reached the final of the British and Open doubles championship after a thrilling four-set struggle against Deuchar and Chris Ronaldson, the former world champions, 4-6, 6-4, 6-5, 6-2.

Results, page 34
Turnstile view, page 30

Cool Hendry retains control after record maximum break

BY PHIL YATES

STEPHEN HENDRY'S thorough professionalism and commitment to excellence shone through after he had compiled the third 147 break of his career in ranking tournaments during a 9-2 win over Gary Wilkinson in the last 16 of the Royal Liver Assurance United Kingdom snooker championship at Preston on Saturday.

While the world champion was delighted to have become the first player to record three maximums in competition — Peter Ebdon, Cliff Thorburn and James Wattana each have two — he drew even more satisfaction from the way that he handled his emotions during the match.

Hendry, whose concentration was shattered after he had constructed his second 147, against Jimmy White in the semi-finals of the world championship this year, on this occasion made a 91 break in the next frame.

"I lost my head completely for a few frames at the Crucible and I was determined to stop myself getting carried away this time," Hendry said. "What I did against Jimmy was annoying: making a big break in the next frame against Gary was very pleasing."

Hendry's perfect run in the fifth frame, during which pinpoint positional control rarely left him contemplating a difficult pot, was the highlight of another overpowering display from the Scot, who continued to justify his status as a strong bookmakers' favourite for the title.

Hendry, attempting to win the championship for a fourth time, also included contributions of 100 and 105. They increased his total of centuries for the event to seven, for the season to 18, and for his career to 316.

"I couldn't be happier with the way I am playing," Hendry, who now meets Ken Doherty or Dennis Taylor in the quarter-finals, said.

Should no other player compile a 147 this week — and that possibility cannot be discounted — Hendry will receive a £20,000 sponsor's bonus in addition to the £5,000 highest break prize. Peter Ebdon, the winner of the Malta Grand Prix, joined Hendry in the last eight with a 9-5 win over Stephen Lee. It was a business-like performance, but Ebdon was forced to admit that he had not been near his best.



Hendry: composed

Ebdon led 5-3 after the opening session, but Lee, who defeated Steve Davis in the first round, recovered to 5-5 with a 94 break and led 51-24 at an advanced stage of the tenth frame.

A long red from Ebdon launched the 38 clearance that enabled him to steal the frame on the black, though, and, from that point, Lee was always treading water.

John Higgins beat Jimmy White 5-2 in the quarter-finals of the Skoda Grand Prix last month and, entering the concluding session of their third round match yesterday, he held a 5-3 advantage.

Plagued by the inconsistency that has blocked his path to a ranking event success since the 1992 United Kingdom championship, White committed a number of costly errors. Higgins, altogether more solid, led 4-1, but White remained in contention with runs of 83 and 64 in the next two frames.

RESULTS: Third round: S Hendry (Scot) bt G Wilkinson (Eng) 9-2; P Ebdon (Eng) bt S Lee (Eng) 9-5. Latest positions: J Higgins (Scot) leads J White (Eng) 5-3; N Bond (Eng) leads W Jones (Wales) 6-2.

Jones walks tall in moment of triumph

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

NO VICTORY during his time as a basketball coach can have given Jeff Jones greater satisfaction than the one by Derby Storm on Saturday against Manchester Giants, his former club.

Jones, who left the Giants amid acrimony two seasons ago, could hardly contain his delight after his new club's 96-91 success at the Moorways Centre. "Yes, it was nice," he agreed after seeing Samuels sink five of Derby's 12 three-pointers in a match-winning contribution of 28 points against the joint Budweiser League leaders.

The foundations for Derby's shock win were laid during the second quarter, when the Giants conceded five free throws after Williams and Bernard were banished for encroaching on court during a scuffle.

Down by 81-61, the Giants began their recovery about a minute too late and eventually succumbed to the accuracy of Humphrey, the scorer of eight of Derby's last nine points, taking him to 24 in all.

The last few minutes, during which Derby had five players on four fouls, having already lost Mike Gonda, their 14-point scorer, had everyone, Jones included, on tenterhooks.

"We became very tentative and people were too terrified to do anything for fear of committing fouls," the coach said. "I had asked them for courage and lots of heart. They just didn't show a great deal of intelligence down the stretch, but I guess two out of three can't be bad."

Without the injured Danny Craven and Kevin St Kitts, the Giants just did not have quite enough support for their three leading marksmen, Robinson (24 points), Beeson (23) and Gardner (21).

While Derby were accumulating fouls, Siemon, their former player, was doing precisely the same for Hemel Hempstead Royals.

It was while the 6ft 9in American was on the bench contemplating his four offences that Worthing Bears hit 23 points without reply to go from 49-38 adrift into a healthy advantage of 61-49 at the Dacorum Centre.

Siemon returned to the court briefly only to foul out on 22 points, leaving the Royals unable to resist Plair leading the Bears to an 84-71 win with 26 points.

Newcastle Comets welcomed Sky TV's cameras to the Newcastle Arena for the first time and celebrated the occasion by recording only their second victory of the season, 87-76 over Chester Jets, who, nevertheless, provided the weekend's outstanding marksman in Boone, who scored 34 points.

هكذا من الاصل

Spinner's back strain threatens to force rethink in bowling strategy

Injury may limit England's Test options

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN BLOEMFONTEIN

BRISK and businesslike, almost to the point of patronising outclassed opposition, England won a tepid limited-overs game against Free State here yesterday with nine overs to spare, and would be leaving Bloemfontein this morning well satisfied with their stay but for a worrying fitness doubt over Richard Illingworth.

This, remarkably, is the first injury of the tour, but it threatens to be a disruptive one. Illingworth, England's principal spin bowler, strained his back during a training routine on Saturday, missed the match yesterday, and will be closely monitored in the lead-up to the second Test match, which starts in Johannesburg on Thursday. If he cannot be risked, England will probably revise their strategy and go into the game with four seam bowlers.

Raymond Illingworth, the team manager, did not underestimate the significance of his namesake's fitness. "He's just tweaked a muscle and we are hopeful that two or three days of rest will put him right, but, if he isn't fit, it could alter the whole balance of our side," he said.

Illingworth Sr, wise old bird that he is, will discount nothing until he assesses the Test pitch over the next three days, but, if a change is forced upon him, it should not be assumed that the beneficiary will be Devon Malcolm. There is still no conviction to Malcolm's bowling, and a likelier alternative is Mark Ilott, not only for the variety that he offers as a left-armer, but also because the ball traditionally swings at the Wanderers ground.

Malcolm did his prospects no favours on Saturday evening. Given a lengthy spell in a largely academic session, Michael Atherton's declaration having left Free State the improbable target of 311 in 55 overs, Malcolm continually speared the ball wide down the leg side as his follow-through, the subject of so much management attention, fell away meekly. He is proving endlessly frustrating, and the dubious claim, that he will produce his best when pitch and occasion encourage him, is no longer sustainable.

Ilott's seven tidy overs on Saturday were a distinct contrast in making the batsmen play, but it is Dominic Cork who repeatedly looks England's most potent bowler. He finished Free State's second innings wicketless, which did not reflect the fact that some of his overs contained two, three or even four appeals for leg-before. By getting close to the stumps and moving the ball either way, he is troubling the best of the South Africans.

Cork did not strike yesterday, either, but he bowled with rhythm. So, too, did Darren Gough, but, on a tired, fourth-day pitch, it was always likely to be the slower bowlers who dictated the pace and tone of a one-day game designed specifically to accommodate England's practice requirements. It succeeded in this function, if not in any other, and was distinctly low-grade entertainment for a crowd of 7,000.

England donned the new, light-blue pyjamas that they will wear for all the instant cricket this winter. Free State wore orange, and the stumps were startling scarlet. There the colour ended as Free State stumbled from 106 for two to an inadequate 201, losing six wickets for 60 to England's trio of off spinners.

Hansie Cronje, again looking short of patience, was caught behind trying to run Gough through the vacant slip area, but Free State were proceeding serenely until Mike Watkinson held a one-handed return catch to dismiss the stocky Jordaan for 54. The middle-order was betrayed by a compulsion to sweep injudiciously, and Free State had subsided to 166 for eight before Allan Donald joined the resourceful Nicky Boje — a potential World Cup inclusion — in an unbroken stand of 35.

Somewhat surprisingly, Donald, who had missed the first-class game, did not then take the new ball, and when Cronje did summon him, for the fifth over, England were already 27 without loss. The premier fast bowler in this country, and probably the world, did nothing to stem the tide, and was withdrawn from the attack after conceding 25 runs in three unimpressive overs.

Later, the only excuse that Donald offered was one of mood. "I didn't really feel like playing," he said. "I saw the wicket was the same as they'd played the three-day game on and knew if I got it wrong I would fetch some punishment — and I bowled very badly."

Donald, however, denied that he is still suffering from the groin injury that he sustained a week before the first Test. "I don't feel it at all now," he said. "It was still tight at Centurion Park and I didn't have any rhythm there. I didn't feel strong enough, but I have bowled for an hour in the nets here, early each morning, and I believe I have got it back. I am having a session with our coach, Bob Woolmer, tomorrow, and I'm looking forward to the game at Wanderers. I love the atmosphere there and I've usually taken wickets on the ground."

Atherton, too, is approaching the Test with confidence, as well he might. Although missed twice — once through an embarrassing howler by Venter at extra cover — he batted assertively for his 60, made from 73 balls, and, by the time that he was out, to an ugly pull, the opening stand was worth 116 and the game was as good as over.

Alec Stewart maintained his fluent form with an untroubled 81, adding 68 in 13 overs with Graeme Hick, and, as the end arrived amid anticlimax, the one surprise was that fist-fights broke out within an element of the crowd on the grass bank. They certainly could not blame it on the passion of the cricket.



Stewart, the England opener, scores runs on the off side during the colourless victory over Free State in a one-day game yesterday. Photograph: Graham Morris

SCOREBOARDS FROM BLOEMFONTEIN

Yesterday

FREE STATE

D Jordaan c and b Watkinson	54
†G F J Liebenberg run out	4
*W J Cronje c Russell b Gough	22
L J Wilkinson st Russell b Hick	24
J F Venter b Watkinson	6
H H Dippenaar c Hick b Watkinson	9
C F Craven c Thorpe b Hick	13
N Boje not out	31
H C Bakkes c Atherton b Ramprakash	1
A A Donald not out	17
Extras (b 4, lb 8, w 7, nb 1)	20
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs)	201

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-60, 3-106, 4-119, 5-125, 6-135, 7-161, 8-166.

N W Pretorius did not bat

BOWLING: Cork 9-3-26-0; Fraser 6-1-26-0; Gough 9-0-38-1; Martin 2-0-14-0; Watkinson 10-0-40-3; Hick 10-0-27-2; Ramprakash 4-0-18-1.

ENGLAND XI

*M A Atherton c Cronje b Venter	60
A J Stewart c Liebenberg b Craven	81
G A Hick b Craven	31
G P Thorpe not out	12
M R Ramprakash not out	2
Extras (b 4, lb 6, w 5, nb 1)	16
Total (3 wkts, 41 overs)	202

†R C Russell, D G Cork, M Watkinson, D Gough, P J Martin and A R C Fraser did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-116, 2-184, 3-193.

BOWLING: Pretorius 2-0-14-0; Bakkes 6-1-32-0, Donald 3-0-25-0; Boje 10-1-30-0; Craven 7-1-36-2; Venter 10-0-47-1; Cronje 3-0-8-0.

Umpires: C J Mitchley and S B Lambson

Saturday

ENGLAND XI: First Innings 316 for 4 dec (G P Thorpe 131 not out, A J Stewart 110).

Second Innings

J P Crawley c Radley b Craven	90
*M A Atherton c Cronje b Craven	18
M R Ramprakash lbw b Pretorius	42
R A Smith b Pretorius	23
D G Cork not out	67
R K Illingworth retd hurt	5
P J Martin not out	13
Extras (b 3, lb 2, w 1, nb 3)	9
Total (4 wkts dec)	239

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-44, 2-134, 3-144, 4-163

†A J Stewart, G P Thorpe, M C Ilott and D E Malcolm did not bat.

BOWLING: Pretorius 26-3-75-2; Bakkes 21-5-50-0; Craven 13-5-25-2; Cronje 2-0-14-0; Boje 11-3-43-0, Venter 11-3-22-0; Jordaan 1-0-5-0.

FREE STATE: First Innings 245 for dec (D Jordaan 52).

Second Innings

D Jordaan lbw b Ilott	3
G F J Liebenberg lbw b Malcolm	18
C F Craven not out	60
L J Wilkinson lbw b Ramprakash	23
J F Venter not out	2
Extras (lb 2, nb 2)	4
Total (3 wkts)	110

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-29, 3-106.

*W J Cronje, H H Dippenaar, N Boje, H C Bakkes, †P J L Radley and N W Pretorius did not bat.

BOWLING: Malcolm 9-1-32-1; Ilott 7-3-12-1; Cork 7-2-21-0; Martin 6-0-29-0; Illingworth 7-2-7-0; Ramprakash 3-1-7-1.

Umpires: C J Mitchley and S B Lambson.

Stadium tragedy mars win for New Zealand

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE fifth one-day cricket international between India and New Zealand at Nagpur yesterday was allowed to continue after eight spectators were killed and more than 70 injured when a stadium wall collapsed. "There would have been a riot if we had suspended play," a match official said.

New Zealand won by 99 runs after scoring 348 for eight — 12 runs short of the record total for a 50-overs international. The Indians only bowled 49 overs after falling behind the clock. The six-match series is level at 2-2, the third match in Goa having been abandoned because of rain. The final match is on Wednesday in Bombay.

A portion of the back wall on the second level of the eastern stand at the Vidarbha Stadium collapsed as spectators were making their way back after the lunch interval. Three spectators were killed immediately and a further five died in hospital. The stadium is due to host a World Cup match between Australia and Zimbabwe in March.

Put into bat, the New Zealanders piled up runs with Nathan Astle, the opener, scoring 114 and Martin Crowe 63. Facing a run rate of 7.1 per over to win the Indians were dismissed for 249, Sachin Tendulkar making 65.

Roger Twose, the New Zealand batsman, was fined half his match fee by the match referee, Peter Burge, for using abusive language during the match. Twose became involved in an argument with the Indian fielders over the legality of Sanjay Manjrekar's catch on the boundary to remove Chris Cairns.

Burge also fined the Indians five per cent of their match fees for not completing the 50-over quota in the allotted three and a half hours.

Stadium tragedy 11
Other scores 34

NEW ZEALAND

M J Greatbatch b Kapoor	38
N Astle c Azharuddin b Prasad	114
M D Crowe st Monga b Kapoor	63
S P Fleming c Azharuddin b Prasad	60
C L Cairns c Manjrekar b Kumble	14
R G Twose run out	9
S A Thomson lbw b Kumble	15
*†L K Germon b Srinath	1
G Larsen not out	5
D J Nash not out	4
Extras (lb 20, nb 2, w 3)	25
Total (8 wkts, 49 overs)	348

D K Morrison did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-62, 2-190, 3-288, 4-306, 5-317, 6-323, 7-337, 8-343

BOWLING: Prabhakar 8-0-55-0; Srinath 9-0-42-1; Kapoor 7-0-48-2, Kumble 10-0-49-2; Prasad 8-0-61-2; Tendulkar 6-0-54-0; Jadeja 2-0-19-0

INDIA

M Prabhakar run out	9
S R Tendulkar run out	65
V G Kambli c Crowe b Cairns	16
*M A Azharuddin b Cairns	1
S V Manjrekar c sub (Young) b Astle	44
A D Jadeja st Germon b Larsen	61
†N R Monga c sub (Young) b Thomson	20
J Srinath c Nash b Thomson	6
A R Kapoor lbw b Larsen	6
A Kumble c sub (Young) b Thomson	12
V Prasad not out	0
Extras (lb 5, nb 4)	9
Total (39.3 overs)	249

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-71, 3-77, 4-123, 5-150, 6-202, 7-211, 8-218, 9-241

BOWLING: Morrison 4-0-25-0; Nash 5-0-35-0; Cairns 7-0-32-2; Larsen 9-0-58-2; Astle 5-0-31-1, Thomson 9 3-0-63-3

□ Pakistan's troubled tour of Australia continued yesterday when they were beaten by eight wickets in Melbourne by Victoria with more than a day to spare. Inzamam-ul-Haq delayed the inevitable with a defiant innings of 132 but Pakistan lost their last five wickets for 23 runs, leaving Victoria to make 72 for victory. Pakistan, humbled in the first two Tests, face Australia again in Sydney on Thursday. Ramiz Raja, the Pakistan captain, said his batsmen were still struggling to cope with the extra bounce of Australian wickets.

□ England's women are struggling to avoid defeat by India in the second Test in Jamshedpur, finishing the third day 27 runs ahead with six second innings wickets in hand. After the Indian tailenders had extended their first innings to 263 in reply to England's 196, England slipped to 94 for four.

Munton's special brew is too potent for Patron's XI

FROM PAT GIBSON
IN LAHORE

TIM MUNTON, who was selling beer in wintry Birmingham only a few days ago, overcame the culture shock of bowling 22 overs in the dry heat of Pakistan without even a cooling pint at the end of the day to take five for 54 on his first appearance for England A.

Only 48 hours after arriving in alcohol-free Pakistan to cover for Mike Smith, who has been suffering from the recurrence of a rib injury for the past three weeks, Munton completely overshadowed his new-ball partner in the match that will decide which of them goes home next week.

No decision has been made yet, but since the left-arm swing bowler from Gloucestershire finished without a wicket from two tentative six over spells and then admitted that he was still feeling some discomfort, the outcome seems fairly predictable.

There is still the second innings, of course, and England A have a lot more work to do if they are to maintain their 100 per cent tour record. By the end of this second day of three, the Patron's XI had recovered from 48 for six to reach 187 for nine before declaring 111 runs behind and then taking two wickets for ten.

It was a fine effort by the Patron's side, who at least showed a bit more spirit than some of England A's earlier opponents. However, the day belonged to Munton. He had been allowed to put his feet up and get over his jet lag on Saturday when Knight and Pooley were scoring a century apiece to take England A to 298 for six declared. Once he was asked to bowl, he lost no time in reminding the selectors why some good judges thought he should have gone to South Africa with the senior side.

Smith made the initial breakthrough after the Patron's openers had put on 34, swivelling at mid-on to throw down the stumps and run out the dangerous Shakeel Ahmad, who was good enough to play in a Test against West Indies in 1992.

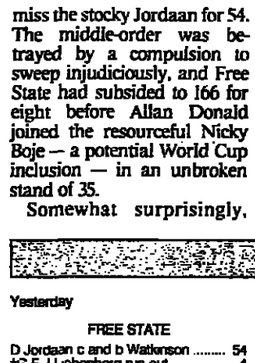
Then Munton went to work. He had not bowled for three months, but he slipped straight back into the groove so familiar to Warwickshire and, with a little swing and a little movement off a pitch that had a few more tufts of grass than most surfaces in Pakistan, he took four wickets for three runs in 13 balls.

Atif Rauf was well caught low down by Hussain at first slip and, next ball, Manzoor Akhtar edged to McGrath, who was sharing the wicketkeeping duties with Ostler.

In his next over, Munton hit Akram Raza's off stump and, in the over after that, he had Javed Qadir caught behind. Munton picked up his fifth wicket when he won a leg-before decision against Mohammad Ali before he began to tire and the lack of penetration at the other end was exposed by Azhar Mahmmod, who made an unbeaten 63 in partnerships of 66 and 51 with Aamer Wasim and Shahid Nazir.

Still, Munton, who was spending his winter working for two Midlands breweries, was pleased. He had not expected to bowl quite as much as he eased himself into the tour, but he said: "If somebody asks me if I want to bowl, I find it hard to say no.

"It was a big surprise when I got the call last Tuesday, but I jumped at the chance because it gives me the opportunity to put myself back in the frame." He has certainly done that.



Munton: five wickets

SCOREBOARD FROM SIALKOT

ENGLAND A: First Innings

N V Knight b Anwar	107
J E R Gallian c Anwar b Aamir	18
*N Hussain b Azwar	23
†D P Ostler c Qadir b Anwar	9
J C Pooley not out	100
A McGrath c Qadir b Anwar	2
C White b Shadid	12
S D Udal not out	14
Extras (b 4, lb 4, nb 4)	12
Total (6 wkts dec)	296

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-62, 2-136, 3-160, 4-165, 5-191, 6-243.

T A Munton, R D Stemp and A M Smith did not bat.

BOWLING: Azwar 11-2-21-1; Ali 9-0-53-0; Shadid 11-2-31-1; Aamir 12-2-45-1; Manzoor 10-1-26-0; Raza 13.2-3-47-0; Anwar 21-5-66-3.

Second Innings

A McGrath c Javed Qadir b Shadid Nazir	0
J E R Gallian lbw b Shadid Nazir	1
S D Udal not out	8
†D P Ostler not out	1
Extras	0
Total (2 wkts)	10

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-9.

N V Knight, *N Hussain, J C Pooley, C White, T A Munton, R D Stemp and A M Smith to bat.

BOWLING: Shadid Nazir 2-0-9-2; Azwar Mahmood 1-0-1-0.

PATRON'S XI: First Innings

Shakeel Ahmed run out	18
Nadim Younis b White	19
Atif Rauf c Hussain b Munton	1
Manzoor Akhtar c McGrath b Munton	0
†Javed Qadir c McGrath b Munton	2
*Akram Raza b Munton	0
Azwar Mahmood not out	63
Aamir Wasim c Knight b Stemp	28
Mohammad Ali lbw b Munton	9
Anwar Ali b White	3
Shadid Nazir not out	28
Extras (b 4, lb 9, nb 3)	16
Total (9 wkts dec)	187

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34, 2-44, 3-44, 4-44, 5-47, 6-48, 7-114, 8-129, 9-136.

BOWLING: Munton 22-7-54-5; Smith 12-4-43-0; White 15-3-46-2; Stemp 13-5-27-1; Udal 2-1-4-0.

Umpires: Mian Mohammad Aslam and Ikram Rabbani.

Von Gruenigen regains World Cup lead



Von Gruenigen: third win

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MICHAEL VON Gruenigen, from Switzerland, overcame warm temperatures and deteriorating race conditions in Park City, Utah to continue his giant slalom mastery on the World Cup skiing tour with his third successive victory.

His victory, however, nearly slipped away as Lasse Kjus, of Norway, overcame a first-run deficit of 0.09sec to take the provisional lead in the second run.

Kjus, who had also finished second to the Swiss skier in the tour's opening two races, clocked a combined time of 2min 27.50sec — just 0.02sec behind Von Gruenigen.

Hans Knaus, of Austria, stopped Urs Kaelin, of Switzerland, from claiming his third straight third-place finish of the year, finishing behind Von Gruenigen and Kjus in 2min 28.93sec.

Fredrik Nyberg, of Sweden, used a swift second run to climb into fourth place at 2min 29.80sec, and Christian Mayer, of Austria, was fifth in 2min 30.14sec.

The victory enabled Von Gruenigen to reclaim the overall World Cup lead from Kjus by 14 points. Alberto Tomba, of Italy, the defending champion, missed a gate on the second run after finishing eighth on the first.

Warm temperatures and soft snow forced the cancellation of the women's World Cup slalom and giant slalom races in Lake Louise, Alberta, leaving some frustrated officials questioning preparations for the event.

"Certainly nations in Europe — the larger ones — will use this as an excuse to get the circuit back to Europe," Jan Tischauser, the race director for the International Ski Federation, said.

Spain seal third successive Fed Cup title

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

CONCHITA MARTINEZ inspired Spain to their third successive Fed Cup women's team tennis title in Valencia yesterday. The United States won the last two matches to make the final score a misleadingly close 3-2 after Martinez, the former Wimbledon champion, had beaten Mary Joe Fernandez 6-3, 6-4 to give Spain an unassailable 3-0 lead.

With the outcome settled, Chanda Rubin, the United States teenager, salvaged some respectability for the American team with a 1-6, 6-4, 6-4 triumph over Arantxa Sánchez Vicario. Sánchez Vicario said her defeat had not hurt too much because Spain already had the title assured.

"I was thinking more about the party tonight than the match," she said.

Then Gigi Fernandez and Lindsay Davenport notched another point with a 6-3, 7-6 victory over Virginia Ruano-Pascal and Maria Sánchez Lorenzo.

Though the Spaniards were heavily favoured on the slow clay courts on which they were reared, the 19-year-old Rubin, a late stand-in for injured Monica Seles, was the surprise of both days. She lost to Martinez 7-5, 7-6 on Saturday.

"For Chanda to win today was extraordinary and very good experience for her," Billie Jean King, the United States captain, said. "We did pretty well considering the problems we had with injuries."

The presence of Seles, the joint world No 1, might have changed the Americans' fortunes but they still had the slow clay surface and the crowd against them.

Martinez complained of neck pain on both days but said it had influenced her play less yesterday.



Martinez: clinched match

Middlesbrough move up to sixth

Liverpool short of answers to little moments of magic

Middlesbrough 2
Liverpool 1

By David Powell

AT THE precise moment that Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, walked into the press-room, an interview with him was showing on television. This was an afternoon for Middlesbrough people appearing to be in two places at once.

There were times when it seemed that there were two Juninhos on the pitch. Barmby was as elusive as the little man from São Paolo, and, at 5ft 7in, it is possible, from a distance, to mistake him for the Brazilian, especially when things are happening quickly and both are playing tricks with the ball. On Saturday, things happened quickly.

Middlesbrough scored after two minutes: Juninho to Fjortoft to Barmby, two short passes; then one more, from Barmby, enabling Cox to score into an open goal. Barmby might have made it 2-0 soon after, but James saved well. What kind of player would Barmby be had he been born a Brazilian? He disguises well the fact that his first dawn was in Hull.

As if Juninho on his own was not enough David for Ruddock, Wright and Babb, the three Goliaths of the Liverpool defence, Barmby teased and tormented them. He made one, scored one, and, in between, ran at Liverpool with a purpose that made him look a bargain at £5.25 million.

Liverpool did not get a look-in during the first half, which owed as much to the midfield promptings of Pollock and Stamp as it did to Barmby and Juninho. "Sometimes, when you play like that, the result is secondary," Robson said. Sometimes, perhaps, but not this time, surely? Middlesbrough's record of not having won with Juninho in the team was beginning to weigh heavily.

Robson's only complaint was that, in the last ten minutes, "we started lashing at the ball and giving it away". He excused them on account of their youth, but hoped that they would learn. "You need to pass the ball and keep possession, that is the best way of playing time out," Robson said.


Juninho: trickery

While Middlesbrough climbed three places to sixth in the FA Carling Premiership, Liverpool slipped to seventh. From their past four matches, they have taken only one point, and Roy Evans, the manager, looked nervous. "We did not compete in the first half," he said. "All the principles we have built up over the years did not show."

Collymore remains a worry for Liverpool. In two matches since Evans restored him to the team, he has looked, at best, profligate, at worst, out of the game completely. If it is possible not to notice £8.5 million, such was the case at the Riverside Stadium. Evans declined to be drawn on Collymore — or Stan the Yesterday Man as he is in danger of becoming known. "It's a team game, it's not about one person," he said.

From McAteer's cross, Ruddock headed an equaliser after 62 minutes. Within a minute, and proving that Middlesbrough can be beautiful without the help of Juninho, Barmby struck a crisp winner after a lightning raid by Pollock and Cox had left Ruddock unable to do anything more than flick Cox's cross into Barmby's path.

Babb might have been sent off for a late tackle on Juninho, but Robson excused the referee. "Ruddock was coming round the back, so I do not think Juninho would have been clean through," Robson said. Forgiveness is easier when your goalkeeper escapes a red card. Walsh handled a shot from Barnes outside his area, and saved the drive from Ruddock that resulted from the free kick.

Evans was less charitable than Robson. "A couple of times Neville Southall [the Everton goalkeeper] has been done without any chance of goals being scored," Evans said. "That is the anomaly of the rules, or of the referees." Referees can be a disappointment, but at least they do not cost £8.5 million.

MIDDLESBROUGH (5-2-1-2): G Walsh — N Cox, N Pearson, S Vickers, C Liddle, C Morris — P Stamp, J Pollock — Juninho — J A Fjortoft, N Barmby.
LIVERPOOL (3-4-1-2): D James — M Wright, N Ruddock, P Babb — R Jones (sub: M Thomas, 77min), J McAteer, J Barnes, S Harkness — S McManaman — S Collymore, R Fowler.
Referee: D Gallagher.


ANDY HEADING
Draper, the Aston Villa midfielder, tries to negotiate a path round Curle, the Manchester City captain who missed a first-half penalty

City find room to accommodate survival

Manchester City 1
Aston Villa 0

By Keith Pike

BRIAN LITTLE had asked for judgment on Aston Villa's potential to be deferred until they had played one or two of the better teams in the FA Carling Premiership. Well, they have now, despite what the table says, and while the verdict will disappoint Little, it is at least unanimous.

Villa may have only three teams above them, but they are no more likely to win the title than Manchester City are to be relegated, and on this evidence there is a better chance of Tony Blair leading a chorus of *For He's a Jolly Good Fellow* after the Budget speech tomorrow. City now enjoy the luxury of having three teams below them, and the smart money will be on the contestants at Maine Road on Saturday meeting around about mid-table in May.

City had their moments of good fortune. Johnson should have given Villa the lead inside 20 seconds, but allowed Symons to block on the line, and later missed a similarly inviting opportunity. Immel saved bravely at Milosevic's feet, and, during a desperate late surge to try to save the game, McGrath's goal-bound shot flicked to safety off Brightwell's head. Yet City's triumph, secured by Kinkladze's goal after 84 minutes, was just reward for a side that worked harder and showed more conviction.

To listen to Alan Ball, the City manager, one would have to believe that his side has been performing like this all season. "We have never thought of the situation as desperate because we have been playing well," he enthused. "I have had a tough two or three months, but it didn't bother me. I stuck to what I believed in and you saw the result today." It was obviously another team called Manchester City that had spent three months anchored at the foot of the table, not knowing where their next goal or point was coming from.

One of the differences now is that Lomas and Flitcroft, the foot soldiers in City's midfield, have remembered how to win tackles. That, in turn, has given Kinkladze the room in which to operate, and the Georgian has ample skill and cunning to exploit space. His goal, driven across Bosnich from Quinn's neat back-heel, was his first in the premiership and only City's seventh in 15 league games, but it meant that they have now taken ten points out of 12. Choruses of *Blue Moon* were sung out of jubilation, not desperation.

Kinkladze may not speak English, but he leapt into the crowd to celebrate nonetheless, and they did not want to give him back. If Curle had done the same after missing a penalty after 19 minutes, they probably would not have done. Integrating Kinkladze into premiership ways had been, Ball said, one of his hardest tasks: interrupting "the cosy little lifestyle" that the players enjoyed at Maine Road another. "I ruffled a few feathers when I arrived in the summer," he said. "They didn't like this new manager coming in, changing things round."

It is hard to imagine Little, who hovers between laid-back and comatose, ruffling a paper hankie, let alone premiership egos, but he completed 12 months in charge with a record of 12 defeats and 62 points from 42 league games, 21 points more than Ron Atkinson's team managed in the previous year, and having exchanged nineteenth place for fourth. As City are now discovering, a move at the top can lead to a move away from the bottom.

MANCHESTER CITY (4-4-2): E Immel — I Brightwell, K Symons, K Curle, R Edghill — N Summerbee, S Lomas, G Flitcroft, G Kinkladze — U Foster, N Quinn.
ASTON VILLA (3-4-3): M Bosnich — U Ehiogu, P McGrath, G Southgate — G Charles, I Taylor (sub: S Staunton, 88min), M Draper, A Wright — T Johnson, S Milosevic (sub: R Scimeca, 78). D Yorke.
Referee: G Ashby.

Ball hoping to recruit Christiansen on loan

MANCHESTER City hope to complete the loan signing of Thomas Christiansen, the highly-rated Barcelona forward, this week. Christiansen, 22, the Spain international, will meet Alan Ball, the City manager, at Maine Road, and is thought likely to agree to join them for a month.

Bernard Halford, the City secretrary, said last night: "Alan will explore the possibility of signing him on loan this week. He mentioned it to me on Friday and said that it could well happen in the next couple of days."

Ball met the player's agent on Friday and agreed personal terms, and hopes to have him available in time for the FA Carling Premiership match away to Leeds United on Saturday. Christiansen has made a record number of under-21 appearances for Spain, and scored on his full debut.

Jimmy Case, who was appointed the manager of Brighton on Tuesday, has moved quickly to name his new assistant. George Petchey, 62, formerly in charge at Millwall and Leyton Orient, has been working alongside Case as Brighton's youth development officer since rejoining the club almost two years ago.

Gillingham, the third division leaders, will be without Mark O'Connor, their midfield player, for at least three months after he suffered a broken leg in the 1-0 victory over Fulham on Saturday.

Fry's newcomers earn due reward

Birmingham City 2
Leicester City 2

By Russell Kempson

BEFORE their Midlands derby at St Andrew's yesterday, Birmingham City were rewarded for their recent endeavours. Ian Bennett received his goalkeeper-of-the-month prize and Barry Fry his manager-of-the-month award. In the long term, though, the Endsleigh Insurance League first division point that they collected against Leicester City may prove more valuable on the day of reckoning in May.

After experiencing an abrupt end to their 15-match unbeaten run on Tuesday, in a 4-1 home defeat by Derby County, and facing a 2-0 deficit after only 16 minutes against Leicester, Birmingham's immediate future looked grim. However, in typically spit-and-snarl fashion, they came bouncing back to earn enthusiastic praise from Fry. "At 2-0 down, we could have been gone, but we fought back brilliantly," he said. "They were magic, all of them: just magic."

Friday had seen a normal day at St Andrew's, with Fry almost frantic in his wheeling and dealing. Cheeky attempts at arranging loan deals for Samways, of Everton, Clough, of Liverpool, and Eklund, of Barcelona, failed to reach fruition, but Fry was more successful with Preece, from Derby, and Hill, from Tottenham Hotspur.

Both made their debuts yesterday, with Francis, the gangling gargantuan striker, also appearing for the first time this season after recovering from injury. Thus, at a stroke, Fry extended to 29 the number of players that he has used since August. It later swelled to 31, when Kenny Lowe and Sahlin entered as replacements.

Initially, Birmingham played as if they barely knew each other, giving Leicester the freedom to fully express their cultured ways. They were soon 2-0 ahead, it being no more than a vivid illustration of why Leicester's away form has proved so productive over the past three months. Roberts, the Wales international, thumped in the first goal, his eleventh of the season, from close range.

Grayson then added to Fry's woes, when Birmingham's defence decided to take a belated Sunday afternoon nap. Nobody picked up the run by Grayson, from Parker's corner, and his fierce drive took a slight deflection off Preece before flying past Bennett.

With Leicester threatening to stroll off into the distance, Birmingham, at last, awoke from their slumber. Claridge ran his socks off, and Downe, as usual, and Hunt began to emerge from the shadow of Parker in midfield. Sustained pressure was finally rewarded, after 31 minutes, when Hunt pirouetted gracefully before beating Poole with a rising 20-yard drive.

The fact that a linesman had lowered his flag, after first raising it earlier in the move, enraged Mark McGhee, the Leicester manager. He stomped around in disgust on the touchline, the change of mind by the official — Francis had been clearly offside — having cost his side dear.

Four minutes into the second half, Taylor brought down the galloping Frain in mid-flight and Hunt sent Poole the wrong way from the penalty. It could have signalled a collapse, but Leicester hung on stubbornly.

BIRMINGHAM CITY (4-4-2): I Bennett — R Forsyth, C Whyte, M Johnson, J Frain — J Hunt, D Preece, D Hill (sub: D Sahlin, 75min), S Castle (sub: K Lowe, 68) — S Claridge, K Francis (sub: K Charlery, 68).
LEICESTER CITY (4-3-1-2): K Poole — B Carey, F Rolling, C Hill, M Whitlow — S Grayson, S Taylor, G Parker — D Lowe — I Roberts, M Robins (sub: E Heskey, 87min)
Referee: D Allison

Glass darkens Dundee's dream

Aberdeen 2
Dundee 0

By Kevin McCarra

THE limpness of this Coca-Cola Cup final at Hampden Park will cause no distress to Aberdeen since it was they who had removed the tension. A victory for a club that last won a trophy, the Scottish Cup, in 1990, ought to have been a clamorous affair. After all, nobody expects moulds to be broken in silence. Roy Aitken's team, however, had little need for uproar.

As long as Aberdeen were even ordinary, they were far superior to Dundee. A year ago, the triumph in this competition of Raith Rovers suggested a convergence of standards in Scottish football and provided a heartening precedent for Jim Duffy's side. Yesterday, there was to be no such anarchy.

Dundee were reminded at length of their humble place in the hierarchy. Celtic, the losers of the 1994 final, had begun that match tentatively, but Aberden remembered to be impatient and forced a corner inside the first minute. For much of the afternoon, Dundee's players were shouting anxiously to one another as they tried to resist.

The losers had expected so much more of themselves. Long before kick-off, George Shaw climbed onto the podium from where the rock group Big Country would later provide pre-match entertainment and began to play the drums. It had been hoped that his side, lively goalscorers in the first division, would bring just such breeziness to the final.

There was, though, to be no levity for them, just the sinking feeling that the final would bring only punishment. Any neutral observer also had to suffer a little. This was a game of misunderstandings and miskicks with only Aberdeen possessing the inherent ability that meant that they could afford mistakes.

So long as they directed play down the left flank, there were bound to be opportunities. Aberdeen found space there and knew that they possessed the player who would be able to exploit it.

Stephen Glass, 19, was to be voted man of the match, primarily for delivering the two crosses that decided the game. After 32 minutes, he was found by a slick pass from the excellent Eoin Jess and swung a teasing ball into the middle that broke confusingly from Roddy Manley. Michel Pageaud, the goalkeeper, then jabbed out a hand to knock the ball down and Billy Dodds rushed in to push a shot into the net from close range.

Dundee, despite their intrepid reputation, lacked the technique to respond, and the match, in effect, was already won. In Morten Wieghorst and Neil McCann, Duffy's team had appeared to possess players who might bring deviliment to the play, but both proved ruinously meek. A second goal was sought only to remove the threat of freak calamity for Aberdeen.

After 46 minutes, Glass again flighted the ball over and Duncan Shearer, playing only because an injury at training had ruled out Scott Booth, rose above Jim Duffy to smack a header high past Pageaud. Aberdeen could afford to let thoughts turn to the presentation of medals as Dundee produced few distractions.

The Pittodrie club possess enough substance to react to this victory with satisfaction rather than delirium. In the autumn of 1994, they were shamingly defeated by Skonto Riga, of Latvia, in the Uefa Cup and spent the remainder of the season resisting relegation — embarrassing for a club that had dominated Scottish football in the mid-1980s.

This trophy mends the broken self-respect, but it is Aitken's ambition to ensure that Aberdeen's calendar is once more sprinkled with occasions such as this. The manager will insist that the result yesterday is no happy ending, just a beginning.

Full results and league tables ... Page 28

ABERDEEN (4-4-2): M Watt — B Grant, J Inglis, G Smith, S McKimmie — J Miller (sub: H Robertson, 79min), P Bernard, E Jess (sub: P Hetherston, 86), S Glass — D Shearer, W Dodds.
DUNDEE (4-4-2): M Pageaud — D Vrto (sub: R Farningham, 82), J Duffy, R Manley, T McQueen — P Tosh (sub: G Britton, 60), N Duffy, M Wieghorst, N McCann (sub: I Anderson, 69) — G Shaw, J Hamilton
Referee: L Mottram

Knighton gives way to his team

Carlisle United 4
Wycombe Wanderers ... 2

By David Powell

MICHAEL KNIGHTON, as you may recall from his brief relationship with a United considerably bigger than Carlisle, does not like being out of the news for long. The past week has been a good one for him: he made the front page lead in one local paper on Friday and back page lead in another yesterday. Today, at least, he must give way to the team.

As Endsleigh League second division shocks go, this was seismic. Carlisle, having won only one of their ten previous league matches, were third from bottom; Wycombe, unbeaten in 14, were fifth.

Two goals in the first seven minutes mocked the concern expressed by Mick Wadsworth, the Carlisle manager, at his team's strike record. By the 22nd minute, they had scored three goals for the first time this season.

Wycombe complained long and loud over the first goal and it was hard not to agree with their protests that Aspinall was offside when he beat Hyde, the Wycombe goalkeeper, with a shot at the far post. Walling headed the second from Currie's corner.

After 13 minutes, Wycombe reduced the arrears. Edmondson lost possession and De Souza unselfishly teed up a shot for Carroll to score unmarked in the area.

If Wycombe sensed that they were back in the match, it did not last long. Reeves took advantage of a Wycombe defence that had pushed forward to fire home unmarked from Smart's cross.

Smart, on loan from Preston, is one of two recent acquisitions made by Wadsworth — Bennett, signed from Sunderland, is the other — to try to prevent an immediate return to the third division. The new men played their part in a team performance where flair and endeavour were equally important.

Both second-half goals were penalties. Hyde brought down Reeves and Gallimore made it 4-1; Aspinall felled Cousins and Carroll scored his second goal for Wycombe, though he might have had four, hitting the post twice from free kicks.

Why, you may be wondering, has Knighton been big news in Cumbria? On Friday, it was reported that he wanted to buy out the small share-


Knighton: high profile

holders and turn the club into a multimillion pound business by offering shares to companies and wealthy individuals.

On Sunday, he was quoted as saying that he might stand down as chairman if the club reached the first division because of the resources needed to succeed at that level. Nothing to worry about there for a while, good though Carlisle were yesterday.

CARLISLE UNITED (4-4-2): A Caig — D Edmondson, D Walling, G Bennett, A Gallimore — A Smart (sub: J Thorpe, 58min), S Hayward, D Reeves, R Prokas — D Currie (sub: R Thomas, 76), W Aspinall (sub: P Murray 84).
WYCOMBE WANDERERS (4-4-2): P Hyde — J Rowbotham, T Howard, J Cousins, M Bell — D Carroll, G Patterson (subr T Evans, 46), S Brown (sub: S McGavin, 87), D Ferrell — M De Souza, S Garner (sub: A Clark, 67)
Referee: T Lunt.

Harriers' draw gives Macclesfield lift

Woking 0
Kidderminster Harriers 0

By Walter Gammie

ENDING the unblemished record that Woking had stretched through their first eight Vauxhall Conference matches at Kingfield this season gave Kidderminster Harriers the honours on Saturday. The biggest benefit of the stalemate, however, went to Macclesfield Town, the league leaders, whose injury-time winner over Farnborough Town put further distance between them and their closest challengers.

Kidderminster put in a reassuring display after their midweek FA Cup exit, on penalties to Sutton United. "It's always difficult picking it up after going out of the Cup," Graham Allner, the manager, said. His pleasure would have been heightened if Lee Hughes, the teenager whose constant menace to Woking on the left wing was underlined when Dave Timothy, the full back, was sent off in the 84th minute for hauling him down on the edge of the penalty area, or Kim Casey had put away their chances.

Hughes was brilliantly denied in the first half by Batty when he met Casey's cross with a fierce volley. In an exciting finish, Casey was foiled by Batty's swift recovery after the latter had put a clearance straight to his feet, and then he allowed a cross to his toes from Hughes to run away from him.

Woking were without Darran Hay, their spearhead, who had flu, and introduced Julian Dowe, 20, from Manchester, who spent most of last season on loan to Ayr United from FC Marbella, of the Spanish second division. Dowe has just started his season after problems gaining release from Spain, and impressed in a reserve match for Oxford United. "We've only got two strikers," Geoff Chapple, the Woking manager, said. "We need more."

Dowe clearly needs time to settle as Woking found their attacking rhythm only fitfully. Only a drive by Thompson, blocked by Steadman, and a vicious volley by Wye that screamed just over the bar, truly threatened. "They had the better chances; if anyone deserved to win, it was probably them," Chapple said generously.

WOKING (5-2-1-2): L Batty — D Timothy, K Brown, C Foster, M Tucker, L Wye — S Thompson, A Ellis — S Steele (sub: S Girdler, 86min) — C Walker, J Dowe
KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS (4-3-3): D Steadman — S Hodson, C Brindley, M Weir, P Bancroft — P Webb, M Yates, K Willetts — K Casey, M Dearlove (sub: M Shophard, 67), L Hughes.
Referee: S Smith

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Premiership leaders prove they are prepared for battle as the going gets tougher

Newcastle in good shape for physical tests

Peter Ball applauds Kevin Keegan's stylists as they find new strength to beat steely Leeds 2-1



Ferdinand, the Newcastle striker, volleys a shot through the legs of Wetherall, only to be thwarted by a fine save from Lukic, the goalkeeper. Photograph: John Giles

The dreaded C-word, the bane of English football, surfaced again at St James' Park on Saturday. "November will go down for me as the month of character," Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle United manager, said enthusiastically after watching his FA Carling Premiership leaders come from behind thrillingly against a rugged Leeds United team to extend their lead to six points.

It isa shame, after a week of further embarrassment for English football, that it could not be called the day, if not the month, of skill. While teams like Leeds are around — and referees look on complacently — character, guts, and determination will matter even more than skill in deciding matches. Was that what the Football Association had in mind when it wanted to appoint Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, as its technical director?

Newcastle had skill and character on Saturday as Leeds set out to test them physically. "I think we're physically capable of standing up to anybody," Keegan said. "That's one of the big changes: we've got a few boys out there who can look after themselves. We don't encourage it, but, on days like today, it's got to be there."

Newcastle are a better team this year from the back, where Hislop made one stunning double save and, more important, inspires confidence, to the front, where Ginola and Ferdinand have added a cutting edge to the pretty football. A greater physical presence this year is a key factor, their durability and stamina — and the refusal to surrender to reverses — suggesting that they could go all the way.

On Saturday,those qualities made for an enthralling match as Newcastle stood up to the physical test and finally, as Leeds partially conspired in their own downfall, turned the game their way. At the end, it had been a great game.

Whether that could have been said if virtue had not prevailed is another matter. Some Newcastle supporters did not. Leeds and Steve Dunn, the referee, left to a chorus of boos and David Mellor's radio phone-in, later in the evening, was inundated with Newcastle supporters complaining about Leeds "trying to kick us off the park" — not something that viewers would have gleaned from *Match of the Day*.

Supporters are necessarily partial — the punch that landed on the head of Wetherall, the Leeds defender, was, unlike last Wednesday, thrown by an opponent, not a team-mate — but the bookings ratio of five for the away team against two for Newcastle told its own story; not the complete one, however, the seven offences ranging from the technical to the malign. At one extreme, Gillespie and McAllister were booked, respectively, for kicking the ball away and delaying the taking of a free kick. At the other, Wetherall escaped with a yellow card for an appalling tackle from behind, that left Ferdinand limping temporarily.

> 'We have a few who can look after themselves'

If the Fifa guidelines mean anything, Wetherall should have been sent off. "The worst tackle of the game," Keegan said. "He was lucky to stay on, but sometimes referees, for their own reasons, want to keep 11 players on each side." Wetherall not only survived that, but also a subsequent lunge that caught Lee thigh-high as the Newcastle pressure mounted.

For a time, Leeds, harbouring an advantage accrued from Deane's flicked header after half-an-hour, held out as Newcastle beat with increasing persistence at their resolute defence, while, on the touchline, Keegan kicked every ball in his excitement.

"I got a touch of the Barry Fry's," Keegan said. "I thought I was going to score, late on."

At last,after 70 minutes, Lee took his own revenge as Beardsley's dummy sent him running at the Leeds defence. Dorigo, like Kelly on the other flank, had had an outstanding game in keeping the Newcastle wingers relatively quiet, but, this time, he slipped, leaving Lee with an opening, and a low shot sped past Lukic. Newcastle were level.

Another minute and the game was won as Leeds cracked. Wilkinson blamed Yeboah for losing the ball on the halfway line. Most neutrals blamed Lukic, who failed to hold Ferdinand's header, Beardsley arriving in a flurry to ram home the loose ball.

That persuaded the sponsors to vote for Beardsley as the man of the match, but, although there were some sublime moments, the little general had a quiet game by his standards. Instead, Lee took charge.

"He was just a corporal when he joined us, but he's become a general now," Keegan said with typical hyperbole. "Someone wrote that he's not good enough for England. Forget midfield, he's the best player in the country in any position."

So Leeds were left with nothing, after matching Newcastle in the first half. A frustrated Wilkinson blamed his front three for failing to hold the ball and give their defenders any respite. So why had he not brought on Brolin earlier, a Swedish journalist wondered?

"I could have brought him on five minutes earlier — or five minutes later," Wilkinson said. A master of obfuscation — no wonder that the FA wanted him.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-1-1): S Hislop — W Barton, D Peacock, S Howey, J Beresford — K Gillespie, R Lee, L Clark, D Ginola — P Beardsley — L Ferdinand.
LEEDS UNITED (4-5-1): J Lukic — G Kelly, D Wetherall, R Jobson, A Dorigo (sub: R Bowman, 90min) — G Speed, G McAllister, C Palmer, M Ford (sub: T Brolin, 81), B Deane — A Yeboah.
Referee: S Dunn.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Newcastle	15	38	+22	DWWDW
2	Manchester Utd	14	32	+18	WWLWW
3	Arsenal	15	28	+11	LWLWD
4	Aston Villa	15	27	+8	WWDWL
5	Tottenham	15	26	+5	DWWWD
6	Middlesbrough	15	26	+5	LDDLW
7	Liverpool	15	24	+13	WLLDL
8	Leeds	14	24	+6	DWDWL
9	Notts Forest	13	24	+3	WWDWL
10	West Ham	15	20	-1	WLWDW
11	Chelsea	15	20	-3	LDLWD
12	Everton	15	19	0	LWWWD
13	Blackburn	15	18	+6	WLLWD
14	Southampton	15	15	-10	WWLLW
15	Sheffield Wed	15	14	-6	LDDLD
16	Wimbledon	15	12	-14	LLDLD
17	Manchester City	15	12	-15	LWDWW
18	QPR	15	11	-12	DLDLL
19	Coventry	15	9	-18	LLDLD
20	Bolton	15	8	-16	WLWLL

Weekly change Up Stayed the same Down

Wilkins not ready to take blame for success of Cottee

West Ham United 1
Queens Park Rangers .. 0

By Oliver Holt

RAY WILKINS had had a bad day at Upton Park. One of his players had been sent off in the dying minutes and an even later goal had robbed his Queens Park Rangers team of a share of the points that they just about deserved. His legs were hurting, too. In his fortieth year, he had played for the first 83 minutes of a tedious London derby. "You don't mind if I sit down, do you," he said at the post-match press conference.

Wilkins had asked his bench the same thing when Ready was sent off for a second bookable offence ten minutes from the final whistle. The player-manager decided to take himself off and send on Maddix to play at right back in Ready's place. Two minutes later, Cottee turned his marker inside out and lashed home West Ham United's winner.

So everyone tried to get unflappable Wilkins to heap a bit more pain on himself and admit that, if he had stayed on the field, the game might have stayed goalless. He demurred; he said that the younger legs of Holloway and Barker had offered more chance of bottling up the midfield and Rangers had been unlucky.

He was more receptive to the suggestion that Ready should not have been sent off, that his absence lost Rangers the game. He went as far as to say that his second foul, a body-check on Slater, the substitute, "did not warrant a booking". Beyond that, though, he exercised a politic restraint, unwilling to incur the wrath of the authorities by lambasting the referee.

The truth, anyway, was that neither Wilkins nor Alcock was to blame. The player-manager had had a poor game by his own high standards. Too many passes had gone high or wide and his tendency to play the ball sideways and backwards, once so constructive and productive, is being over-indulged with each passing year.

The sending-off, meanwhile, was justified. Many had missed Ready's first booking for a late tackle on Rowland in the first half because Paul Alcock had played an intelligent advantage before punishing the full back. The body-check, too, despite the reservations of Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, could not go uncensored.

The reality was that the man solely responsible for West Ham's first victory over Queens Park Rangers for ten years was Cottee, the goalscorer. At the end of a game distinguished only by its lack of thought and composure, he produced the one moment of real skill and calm.

He received the ball from Potts's throw with his back to goal, but turned the otherwise impressive Yates effortlessly before driving the ball over the sprawling Sommer and into the net. It was his 108th league goal for the club and took West Ham, who have now lost just once in nine games, to the heady position of tenth in the FA Carling Premiership.

Rangers are languishing third from bottom, hoping that the long-awaited appearance, after injury, of Mark Hateley, their new signing, and the return of Sinclair can kick-start their season.

WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): L Miklosko — S Potts, A Martin, M Rieper, K Rowland (sub: T Breacker, 43min) — J Harkes (sub: R Slater, 65), D Williamson, I Bishop, M Hughes — A Cottee, I Dowie.
QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): J Sommer — K Ready, S Yates, A McDonald, M Brazier — I Holloway, S Barker, R Wilkins (sub: D Maddix, 83), A Impey (sub: L Charles, 88) — D Dicho, K Gallen
Referee: P Alcock.

Full results and league tables ... Page 28

Coventry rally to Atkinson's cause

Coventry City 3
Wimbledon 3

By Ivo Tennant

TO HAVE two players sent off and yet still score twice to draw is the stuff of desperadoes, of cocking a snook at the referee, of Wimbledon Football Club. On Saturday, however, such a performance was enacted by Coventry City, who picked themselves up off the bottom of the FA Carling Premiership in the process.

Desperate circumstances call for desperate football. Coventry had won but one league match all season, and that against Manchester City. To nobody's surprise, the other Manchester club had trounced them in midweek. Here was a fixture that promised only long balls and attrition. True, Sam Hammam, the increasingly bizarre managing director of Wimbledon, had said that the club had unearthed the new Pelé — at least he did before Jason Euell was left out of the team. Some things are better left unsaid.

Instead of Pelé, there was an afternoon comprising sufficient brawn and incident to last all season, and there are still plenty of spectators who relish a gladiatorial spectacle. Besides, Ron Atkinson called this the most important match since he took over as the Coventry manager, so it was never likely to be a passive affair.

As to the sendings-off, there was nothing remotely controversial about either of them, and how often can that be said of a match involving Wimbledon? Williams's tip over the bar midway through the first half would have been admired by many a goalkeeper. His banishment was not complete, for, come the second half, when he had changed, he was ordered away from the dugout by the referee for a misdirected comment or two. There were eight minutes remaining when Shaw, who had already been booked, was sent off for an appalling, scything challenge on Cunningham. What made this worse was that Coventry were still a goal behind. A manager of Atkinson's standing deserves better, not least in his present plight.

Coventry had deservedly taken the lead when Heald punched the ball into his own net from Richardson's corner, as if he were Gary Sprake. By the time they were in the game again, they were 3-1 down and running short of manpower. Jones scored from the penalty spot when Williams handled. Goodman gained Wimbledon's second after Harford's initial shot was parried by Ogrizovic, and Leonhardsen their third through a header from an attempted clearance.

On the touchline now to spur Coventry on was not Atkinson but Gordon Strachan, his assistant manager, who is still fit enough to play a full 90 minutes at this level when required. If he has an empathy with Dublin, his captain, it would be no surprise: they were both good enough to have played for Manchester United.

It was to Dublin whom Strachan looked for motivation on the pitch, and he found it. From two long balls, the first by Telfer, the second from Richardson, Dublin and then Rennie enabled Coventry to gain the most improbable of draws. This was something of a timely psychological boost that will serve them well as they endeavour to avoid relegation.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — R Shaw, P Williams, D Rennie, M Hall — P Telfer, K Richardson, P Cook (sub: M Isaias, 79min), J Salako (sub: A Pickering, 30) — P Ndlovu, D Dublin.
WIMBLEDON (4-3-3): P Heald — C Perry, A Thorn, A Pearce, A Kimble — R Earle, V Jones, O Leonhardsen — J Goodman (sub: K Cunningham, 71; sub: A Clarke, 86), M Harford (sub: M Gayle, 56). E Ekoku.
Referee: R Hart.

Chelsea seeking dividends

Alyson Rudd says a goalless draw sums up underlying frailty damaging the club

MACHIAVELLI would been turning in his grave. The power struggle at Stamford Bridge has potential, but, so far, lacks any real finesse, intrigue or even sinister opportunism. Machiavelli, though, was not known for turning up — come rain, shine or inquisition — at the local derby to wear his emotions on his sleeve. Football politics would have been beyond him.

Just what makes an astute entrepreneur like Matthew Harding become embroiled in the nonsense of in-fighting that is going on at Chelsea? Harding made his fortune in insurance, a business that has ruined less canny individuals who found their liabilities never ending.

The comparison with football is clear — where investments do not yield cash dividends, just limited success and a plea for more money. Those who are backing Ken Bates to enjoy continued control of the club point out that Harding has failed to make it clear precisely how much further cash he is prepared to give. In business terms, this is clearly unsatisfactory, but most football clubs have a long way to go before they behave like viable businesses. Chelsea could do without the rancour in the boardroom, but what this 0-0 draw showed is that the club really needs to produce the goods on the pitch. No matter how many moments of class it offers up, Glenn Hoddle's side has an underlying frailty.

The best chance of the match fell to Newton, who ran on to Wise's precise throughball and then struck the crossbar, but thereafter, the home side looked destined for a dissatisfying afternoon. They secured a point from this encounter mainly because Armstrong and Sheringham, who have been so effective lately, decided to have a dual off-day. The England forward was invisible and his partner all too visible, with some embarrassingly poor efforts.

The outstanding talent belonged to Fox, and even he can perform better. Fox felt marginalised at Newcastle United and his move to Tottenham Hotspur appears successful. With his energy, pace and ability to skip past defenders, Fox is quickly becoming Tottenham's key player.

Key players are expensive, however, and although, at £4.2 million, he cannot be said to have been overpriced, it is a fee that looks beyond the means of Chelsea for any fresh face at present.

The disquiet at the top has not filtered down to the stands at the Bridge. If the supporters care, it is because they know that Hoddle needs to spend significantly to improve his squad. Under whom is that more likely to materialise?

The Chelsea supporters gave no clues, but those of Tottenham did. "We want Harding out ... there's only one Ken Bates ...", the visiting band sang. A tiny triumph for the insurance man.

CHELSEA (4-1-2-1-2): D Kharine — M Duberry, E Johnsen, D Lee, G Hall — N Spackman (sub: C Burley, 73min) — D Panescu, E Newton — D Wise — M Hughes, P Furlong.
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — D Austin, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, S Campbell — R Fox, J Dozzell, D Howells, R Rosenthal (sub: G McMahon, 89) — E Sheringham, C Armstrong.
Referee: S Lodge.

Wednesday resist Everton euphoria

Everton 2
Sheffield Wednesday 2

By Ian Rodgers

DUNCAN FERGUSON was on the Goodison Park pitch for less than a minute on Saturday, but the roar of approval resounded considerably longer.

Everton supporters were already buoyed after their victory at Anfield last week, and the release of Ferguson from prison only added to the delirium, but euphoria was short-lived. Mark Bright twice took advantage of his own freedom in the Everton penalty area, and converted crosses from Briscoe and Waddle into a two-goal lead.

However, credit also went to Steve Nicol — like Ferguson, another returning Scotland international. He underpinned a Sheffield Wednesday side that had gained only one FA Carling Premiership victory in nine attempts. On his debut, Nicol commanded in both defensive and midfield roles. "He could sit in a chair and play because he has got a brain," David Pleat, the Wednesday manager, said.

Throughout the second half, Nicol's vast experience was required as Everton aimed to capitalise on Andrei Kanchelskis's late first-half strike, the Ukrainian and Anders Limpar homing in on the Wednesday goal. "Everton are good in as much as they maintain a tempo for a long period," Pleat said with understatement.

Early in the second half, Wednesday could have sealed the game when Waddle curled a shot against the top of the crossbar. The subsequent Everton attack was bundled into the Wednesday goal via Daniel Amokachi and the leg of Ian Nolan. Yet, despite Everton's midfield superiority and constant attacking, there was no access through a Sheffield defence that appeared to consist of eight men at any given point.

EVERTON (4-4-2): N Southall — M Jackson, D Unsworth, D Watson, A Hinchcliffe — A Kanchelskis, J Parkinson, J Ebbrell, A Limpar — G Stuart, P Rideout (sub: D Amokachi, 17min).
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (5-3-2): K Pressman — L Briscoe (sub: M Williams, 63; sub: M Degryse, 72), P Atherton, S Nicol, D Walker, I Nolan — C Waddle, G Hyde, A Sinton — G Whittingham, M Bright.
Referee: M Bodenham.

Bolton plunge as life at the top becomes uncomfortable



Venison: commander

Southampton 1
Bolton Wanderers 0

By Nick Szczepanik

A GLANCE at the FA Carling Premiership suggests that the adrenalin rush that brought Bolton Wanderers regular cup victories over clubs from the higher echelon has now subsided. Opponents who once trembled before them have been making Bolton look more like plodders than Trotters.

Southampton, although not among their recent cup victims, joined in the premiership's collective revenge by inflicting the 1-0 defeat that sent Bolton to the bottom of the table for the first time; but Roy McFarland, the visitors' manager, was not alone in believing that his side had merited at least a draw.

"Luck has deserted us, particularly in the last two games, the best we've played away from home," he said. "It's a little soul destroying, but, when you create as many chances as we did today, you've got to take them."

In the first half, the chances came from the skills of Curcic, the Bosnian, and the eccentricities of Beasant, the Southampton goalkeeper, who was fortunate on one occasion that none of the Bolton forwards were looking when he lost control of the ball while attempting to throw it out.

Southampton relied mainly on a stream of none-too-accurate crosses, and the hope that Le Tissier would come up with something. Typical of his afternoon was a fierce shot that Branagan beat away, followed by so inept an attempt to play the resulting corner short that it dribbled out, laughably, for a goal kick.

The all-important goal, scored with his first touch by Hughes, the substitute, produced an error-strewn but frenetically entertaining final 15 minutes. Having nothing to lose, Bolton threw everything at Southampton, who were happy to kick anywhere. With the help of a save by Beasant, a last-ditch clearance from Hall and the referee's decision to disallow Thompson's "goal" for a foul on the goalkeeper, the home side held out.

"We dug in and showed some steel," a relieved Dave Merrington, the Southampton manager, said. His side has won all four games in which Barry Venison has played. "I'd have liked to see more intelligence from us in the last 15 minutes. When you're under pressure, things go out of players' minds. Barry Venison pulls people back and gets them in the right zone; that's where he's a commander."

McFarland believes that Bolton, too, have the right stuff. "They stuck at it; they are down now, but the resolve and the spirit are still there," he said.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): D Beasant — J Dodd, R Hall, K Monkou, F Benali — F Bennett (sub: D Hughes, 71min), B Venison, M Le Tissier, J Magilton — G Watson (sub: C Warren, 46), D Shipperley.
BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K Branagan — G Fairclough, G Bergsson, G Taggart, J Phillips — S Green, S Curcic, A Todd, M Patterson — A Thompson, J McGinlay.
Referee: P Jones

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

CHELSEA (0) 0 **TOTTENHAM** (0) 0
31,059
Chelsea: D Kharine, M Duberry, E Johnsen, D Lee, G Hall, N Spackman (sub: C Burley, 73min), D Petrescu, E Newton, D Wise, M Hughes, P Furlong.
Booked: Hughes.
Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, D Austin, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, S Campbell, R Fox, J Dozzell, D Howells, R Rosenthal (sub: G McMahon, 89), E Sheringham, C Armstrong.
Booked: Armstrong, Dozzell, Rosenthal.
Referee: S Lodge.

COVENTRY (1) 3 **WIMBLEDON** (2) 3
Heald 14 (og), Dublin 67, Rennie 83 — Jones 28 (pen), Goodman 42, Leonhardsen 58
12,523
Coventry City: S Ogrizovic, R Shaw, P Williams, D Rennie, M Hall, P Telfer, K Richardson, P Cook (sub: M Isaias, 79min), J Salako (sub: A Pickering, 30), P Ndlovu, D Dublin.
Booked: Shaw. Sent off: Williams (28), Shaw (81).
Wimbledon: P Heald, C Perry, A Thorn, A Pearce, A Kimble, R Earle, V Jones, O Leonhardsen, J Goodman (sub: K Cunningham, 71, sub: A Clarke, 86), M Harford (sub: M Gayle, 56), E Ekoku.
Booked: Leonhardsen.
Referee: R Hart.

EVERTON (1) 2 **SHEFFIELD WED** (2) 2
Kanchelskis 45, Amokachi 54 — Bright 2, 36
35,898
Everton: N Southall, M Jackson, D Unsworth, D Watson, A Hinchcliffe, A Kanchelskis, J Parkinson, J Ebbrell, A Limpar, G Stuart, P Rideout (sub: D Amokachi, 17min).
Booked: Watson, Parkinson.
Sheffield Wednesday: K Pressman, L Briscoe (sub: M Williams, 63; sub: M Degryse, 72), P Atherton, S Nicol, D Walker, I Nolan, C Waddle, G Hyde, A Sinton, G Whittingham, M Bright.
Booked: Atherton.
Referee: M Bodenham.

MANCHESTER C (0) 1 **ASTON VILLA** (0) 0
Kinkladze 85
28,027
Manchester City: E Immel, I Brightwell, K Symons, K Curle, R Edghill, N Summerbee, S Lomas, G Flitcroft, G Kinkladze, U Rösler, N Quinn.
Booked: Quinn, Brightwell.
Aston Villa: M Bosnich, U Ehiogu, P McGrath, G Southgate, G Charles, I Taylor (sub: S Staunton, 68min), M Draper, A Wright, T Johnson, S Milosevic (sub: R Scimeca, 78), D Yorke.
Booked: Charles, Ehiogu, Johnson, Taylor.
Referee: G Ashby.

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 2 **LIVERPOOL** (0) 1
Cox 2, Barmby 64 — Ruddock 63
29,390
Middlesbrough: G Walsh, N Cox, N Pearson, S Vickers, C Liddle, C Morris, P Stamp, J Pollock, Juninho, J A Fjortoft, N Barmby.
Booked: Walsh.
Liverpool: D James, M Wright, N Ruddock, P Babb, R Jones (sub: M Thomas, 77min), J McAteer, J Barnes, S Harkness, S McManaman, S Collymore, R Fowler.
Booked: Babb.
Referee: D Gallagher.

NEWCASTLE UTD (0) 2 **LEEDS UTD** (1) 1
Lee 70, Beardsley 71 — Deane 31
36,572
Newcastle United: S Hislop, W Barton, D Peacock, S Howey, J Beresford, K Gillespie, R Lee, L Clark, D Ginola, P Beardsley, L Ferdinand.
Booked: Peacock, Gillespie.
Leeds United: J Lukic, G Kelly, D Wetherall, R Jobson, A Dorigo (sub: R Bowman, 90min), G Speed, G McAllister, C Palmer, M Ford (sub: T Brolin, 81), B Deane, A Yeboah.
Booked: Wetherall, Ford, Speed, McAllister.
Referee: S Dunn.

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 **BOLTON** (0) 0
Hughes 73
14,404
Southampton: D Beasant, J Dodd, R Hall, K Monkou, F Benali, F Bennett (sub: D Hughes, 71min), B Venison, M Le Tissier, J Magilton, G Watson (sub: C Warren, 46), D Shipperley.
Booked: Monkou.
Bolton Wanderers: K Branagan, C Fairclough, G Bergsson, G Taggart, J Phillips, S Green, S Curcic, A Todd, M Patterson, A Thompson, J McGinlay.
Booked: Taggart, Thompson.
Referee: P Jones.

WEST HAM (0) 1 **QPR** (0) 0
Cottee 84
21,504
West Ham United: L Miklosko, K Rowland (sub: T Breacker, 44min), S Potts, A Martin, M Rieper, I Bishop, D Williamson, M Hughes, A Cottee, I Dowie, J Hartes (sub: R Slater, 70min).
Booked: Breacker.
Queens Park Rangers: J Sommer, K Ready, S Yates, A McDonald, I Holloway, A Impey (sub: L Charles, 86min), S Barker, R Wilkins (sub: D Maddix, 83min), M Brazier, D Dichio, K Gallen.
Booked: Ready, Dichio. Sent off: Ready (82).
Referee: P Alcock.

Yesterday

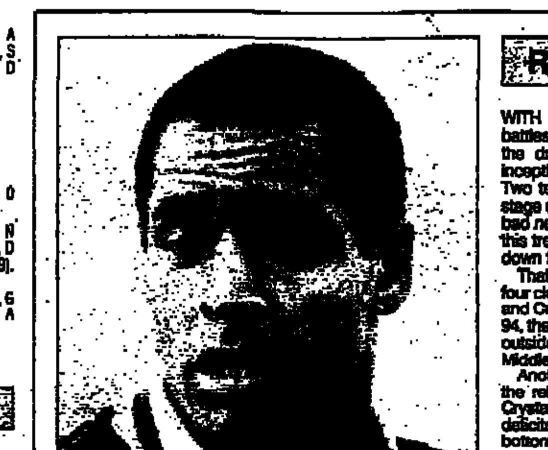
ARSENAL (0) 0 **BLACKBURN RVRS** (0) 0
37,695
Arsenal: D Seaman, L Dixon, S Bould, A Adams, N Winterburn, P Merson, M Keown (sub: G Helder, 31min), D Platt, D Hillier, D Bergkamp, J Hartson (sub: P Dickov, 79).
Booked: Bould, Adams, Platt.
Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, J Kenna, C Hendry, H Berg, G Le Saux, T Sherwood, D Batty, L Bohinen, S Ripley, A Shearer, M Newell.
Booked: Hendry, Berg, Bohinen, Sherwood.
Referee: G Poll.

TODAY

NOTTINGHAM FOREST v MANCHESTER UNITED

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, will decide between Paul Scholes and Brian McClair before finalising the team to face Nottingham Forest tonight. Scholes, who is United's top scorer this season with ten goals, missed the 4-0 win at Coventry, where McClair scored twice.

United will be trying to close the gap on Newcastle against a Forest team who lost 7-0 in their last Premiership outing. Paul McGregor, who scored against Lyons in the Uefa Cup, will have a fitness test on a back injury. Forest will also be without Bryan Roy, their Holland international, and Jason Lee.



Bright: two against Everton

GOALSCORERS

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
Ferdinand (Newcastle)	15	3	0	18
Shearer (Blackburn)	13	5	0	18
Fowler (Liverpool)	11	2	0	13
Sheringham (Tottenham)	10	3	0	13
Yeboah (Leeds)	9	0	3	12
Wright (Arsenal)	7	4	0	11
Scholes (Man Utd)	7	2	1	10
Bergkamp (Arsenal)	6	3	0	9
Yorke (Aston Villa)	5	3	0	8
Holdsworth (Wimbledon)	4	4	0	8
Dichio (QPR)	6	1	0	7
Hignett (Middlesbrough)	5	2	0	7
Armstrong (Tottenham)	4	3	0	7
Bright (Sheff Wed)	4	3	0	7

RELEGATION POINTERS

WITH football pundits talking of early-season relegation battles, can one really predict which teams are heading for the drop? An analysis of league positions since the inception of the premiership reveals interesting results. Two teams (denoted in bold) in the danger zone at this stage of the season were subsequently relegated, which is bad news for Coventry City and Bolton Wanderers should this trend continue (especially with only two teams going down this campaign).

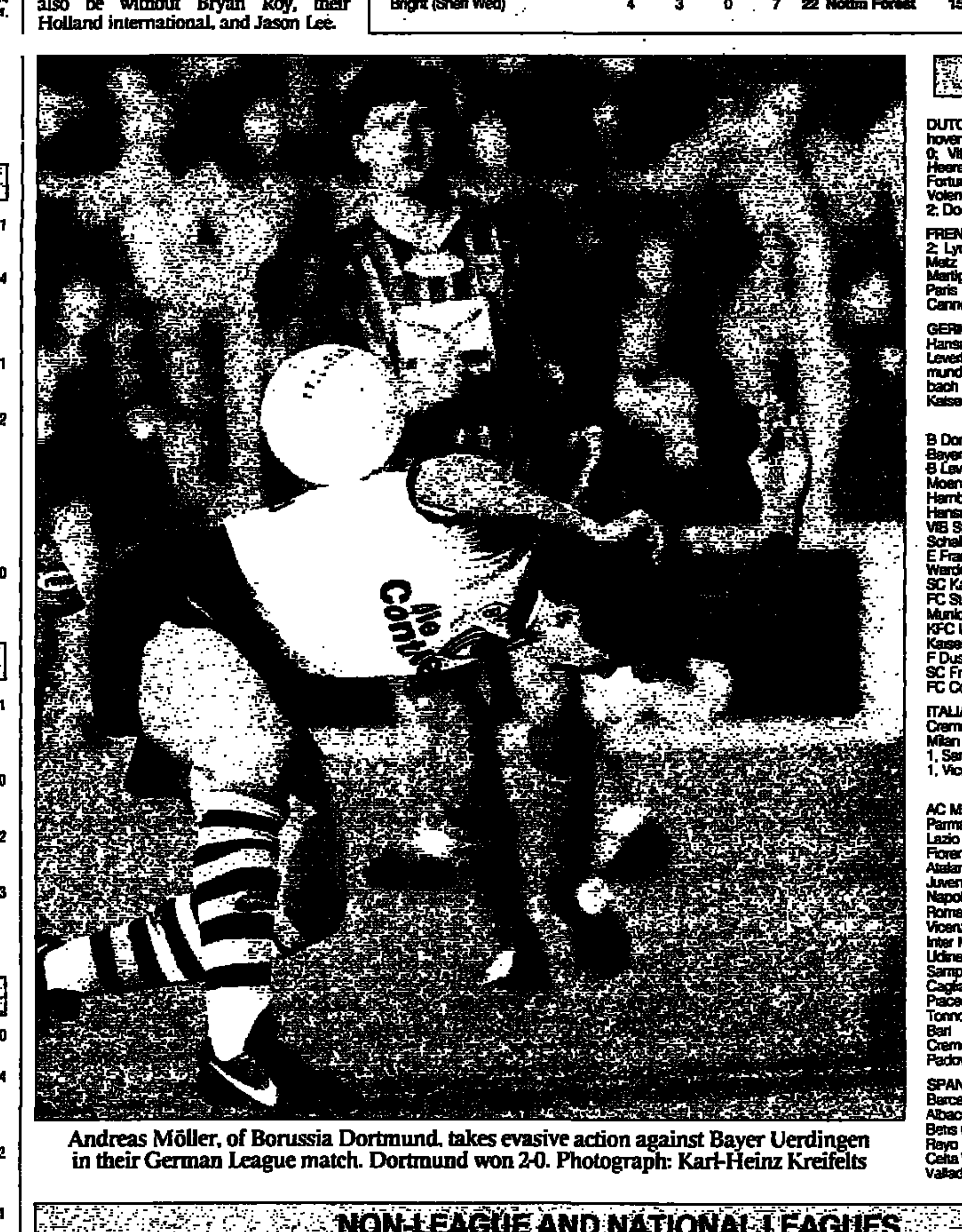
That thought should comfort those in mid-table. With four clubs down last season, Norwich were a heady eighth and Crystal Palace twelfth at this stage of season. In 1993-94, the third relegation candidate was Sheffield United, just outside the danger zone in nineteenth, while, in 1992-93, Middlesbrough were a loftier twelfth.

Another big pointer is the number of goals conceded by the relegated clubs — all teams, with the exception of Crystal Palace in the 1992-93 season, had goal difference deficits in double figures, something that the present bottom five should note.

The season so far (1995-96)								
16 Wimbledon	15	3	3	9	19	33	12	-14
17 Man City	15	3	3	9	7	22	12	-15
18 QPR	15	3	2	10	11	23	11	-12
19 Coventry	15	1	6	8	14	32	9	-18
20 Bolton	15	2	2	11	14	30	8	-16
1994-95								
19 Aston Villa	15	3	4	8	19	27	13	-8
20 Ipswich	15	3	1	11	14	30	10	-16
21 Leicester	13	2	3	8	14	25	9	-11
22 Everton	14	1	5	8	9	24	8	-15
1993-94								
20 Southampton	15	3	2	10	16	26	12	-10
21 Oldham	15	2	5	8	10	24	11	-14
22 Swindon	15	0	6	9	13	35	6	-22
1992-93								
20 Wimbledon	15	3	5	7	18	23	14	-5
21 C Palace	15	1	8	6	19	26	11	-7
22 Nottm Forest	15	2	4	9	11	24	10	-13

F.A. CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Newcastle	15	8	0	0	20	4	4	2	1	13	7	38	+22
2 Man Utd	14	6	1	0	17	5	4	1	2	14	8	32	+18
3 Arsenal	15	5	3	0	14	6	3	1	3	7	4	28	+11
4 Aston Villa	15	4	2	1	9	4	4	1	3	10	7	27	+8
5 Tottenham	15	3	1	3	9	9	4	4	0	13	8	26	+5
6 Middlesbro	15	5	2	1	10	4	2	3	2	4	5	26	+5
7 Liverpool	15	5	1	1	17	4	2	2	4	10	10	24	+13
8 Leeds	14	5	0	2	10	7	2	3	2	10	9	24	+4
9 Nottm For	13	4	2	0	14	6	2	4	1	9	14	24	+3
10 West Ham	15	2	3	3	8	12	3	2	2	7	4	20	-1
11 Chelsea	15	3	4	1	10	8	2	1	4	4	9	20	-3
12 Everton	15	3	2	3	11	11	2	2	3	8	8	19	0
13 Blackburn	15	5	1	1	20	5	0	2	6	3	12	18	+6
14 Soton	15	3	2	3	9	9	1	1	5	6	16	15	-10
15 Sheff Wed	15	1	2	4	4	9	2	3	3	10	11	14	-6
16 Wimbledon	15	2	2	3	9	11	1	1	6	10	22	12	-14
17 Man City	15	3	2	3	4	5	0	1	6	3	17	12	-15
18 QPR	15	1	2	4	7	14	2	0	6	4	9	11	-12
19 Coventry	15	1	3	4	8	16	0	3	4	6	16	9	-18
20 Bolton	15	2	2	3	6	10	0	0	8	8	20	8	-16



Andreas Möller, of Borussia Dortmund, takes evasive action against Bayer Uerdingen in their German League match. Dortmund won 2-0. Photograph: Karl-Heinz Kreifelts

Endsleigh Insurance League

FIRST DIVISION

BARNSLEY (0) 1 **LUTON** (0) 0
Redfearn 68
6,437

CHARLTON (0) 2 **PORT VALE** (0) 2
Mortimer 53 (pen), Bowyer 73 — Porter 61, Griffiths 79
10,174

C PALACE (0) 0 **DERBY CO** (0) 0
13,506

HUDDERSFIELD (2) 2 **WOLVES** (0) 1
Booth 20, Dalton 38 — Bull 79
16,423

IPSWICH (2) 3 **PORTSMOUTH** (1) 2
Milton 2, Marshall 36, Thompson 90 — Walsh 25, Allen 75
10,286

OLDHAM (0) 0 **SOUTHEND** (0) 1
Snodin 51 (og)
6,474

SHEFFIELD UTD (0) 0 **READING** (0) 0
9,737

STOKE (0) 1 **MILLWALL** (0) 0
Gleghorn 62
12,590

TRANMERE (0) 0 **GRIMSBY** (1) 1
Bonetti 26
7,500

WEST BROM (0) 0 **SUNDERLAND** (1) 1
Howey 10
15,931

Yesterday

BIRMINGHAM (1) 2 **LEICESTER** (2) 2
Hunt 30, 49 (pen) — Roberts 9, Grayson 16
17,350

WATFORD (0) 0 **NORWICH** (1) 2
Ward 31, Scott 46
7,798

SECOND DIVISION

BRENTFORD (2) 2 **BRADFORD** (0) 1
Taylor 6, 15 — Murray 85
4,237

BRISTOL R (0) 1 **STOCKPORT** (0) 3
Miller 87 — Thornley 60, Armstrong 71, Eckhardt 82
4,326

BURNLEY (0) 2 **WREXHAM** (0) 2
Nogan 59, Joyce 66 — Skinner 51, Ward 66
8,710

CHESTERFIELD (2) 3 **BOURNEMOUTH** (0) 0
Robinson 24, 50, Lormor 38
4,034

HULL (1) 2 **PETERBOROUGH** (1) 3
Dewson 31, Peacock 58 — Martindale 12, 48, 81
3,642

OXFORD UTD (1) 1 **CREWE** (0) 0
Rush 12
5,289

ROTHERHAM (1) 2 **BRISTOL CITY** (1) 3
Goater 20, 84 — Barnard 26, Owers 64, Seal 65
2,649

SWANSEA (0) 0 **NOTTS CO** (0) 0
2,327

SWINDON (0) 0 **SHREWSBURY** (0) 1
Scott 75
9,306

WALSALL (0) 1 **BLACKPOOL** (0) 1
Wilson 51 — Mellon 58
4,459

YORK (0) 3 **BRIGHTON** (1) 1
Barnes 48, 78, Baker 49 — McCarthy 2
3,105
Sent off: S Munday (Brighton) 65

Yesterday

CARLISLE (3) 4 **WYCOMBE** (1) 2
Aspinall 4, Walling 8, Reeves 23, Gallimore 56 (pen) — Carroll 14, Farrell 83 (pen)
4,453

THIRD DIVISION

BARNET (1) 3 **L ORIENT** (0) 0
Dyer 37, Hodges 73, 84
2,850

BURY (0) 2 **EXETER** (0) 0
Johnson 82, Pugh 83
3,597

CAMBRIDGE (1) 1 **TORQUAY** (0) 1
Butler 38 (pen) — Gore 85
2,536

CHESTER (1) 4 **DARLINGTON** (0) 1
Rimmer 37, 73, Priest 53 (pen), 84 — Barnard 58
2,652

COLCHESTER (0) 1 **MANSFIELD** (1) 3
Adcock 46 (pen) — Hadley 41, Boothroyd 50 (pen), Ireland 70
2,819

GILLINGHAM (0) 1 **FULHAM** (0) 0
Fortune-West 65
7,704
Sent off: N Cusack (Fulham) 81, M Gray (Fulham) 89

LINCOLN (0) 1 **NORTHAMPTON** (0) 0
Brown 87
3,287

PLYMOUTH (0) 2 **ROCHDALE** (0) 0
Littlejohn 49, Evans 86
6,558

PRESTON NE (1) 3 **HARTLEPOOL** (0) 0
Moyes 23, Atkinson 61, Saville 86
9,449

SCUNTHORPE (2) 3 **SCARBOROUGH** (0) 3
Ford 27, Clarkson 37, Bullimore 53 (pen) — Trebble 58, Wells 73, Rockett 79
2,231

WIGAN (2) 2 **DONCASTER** (0) 0
Leonard 13, Biggins 18
2,879

Yesterday

HEREFORD (0) 1 **CARDIFF** (0) 3
White 56 — Adams 52, Dale 46, 81
3,528

GOALSCORERS

First division: 14 Aldridge (Tranmere). 10 Blake (Sheffield United), McCarthy (Oldham), Roberts (Leicester), Hunt (West Bromwich); Goodman (Wolverhampton); Bowyer (Charlton) 9 Hunt (Birmingham); Booth (Huddersfield)

Second division: 17 Barnes (York) Goater (Rotherham). 14 Nogan (Burnley), White (Notts County). 12 Finney (Swindon). 11 De Souza (Wycombe), Jones (Bournemouth), Showler (Bradford); Stewart (Bristol Rovers)

Third division: 18 Dale (Cardiff). 15 Saville (Preston). 14 Whitehall (Rochdale). 12 Littlejohn (Plymouth) Adcock (Colchester) Stant (Bury). McFarlane (Scunthorpe) 11 Butler (Cambridge United).

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

CELTIC (1) 3 **HEARTS** (0) 1
Collins 33 (pen), 64, 89 — Bruno 46
33,936

HIBERNIAN (1) 1 **RANGERS** (2) 4
Jackson 15 — McCoist 14, Dods 33 (og), Miller 48, Durie 67
13,558

MOTHERWELL (0) 1 **FALKIRK** (0) 1
Burns 74 — Clark 68
5,201

PARTICK (0) 0 **RAITH** (2) 2
Graham 7, Crawford 31
4,500

Yesterday

League Cup

Final

ABERDEEN (1) 2 **DUNDEE** (0) 0
Dodds 33, Shearer 46
33,096

FIRST DIVISION

AIRDRIE (0) 1 **DUNDEE UTD** (0) 1
McIntyre 76 — Malpas 57
2,343
Sent off: S Cooper (Airdrie) 39

CLYDEBANK (2) 2 **ST JOHNSTONE** (0) 0
Sutherland 20, Eadie 38
913

DUNFERMLINE (0) 0 **G MORTON** (2) 2
Lilley 12 (pen), Hawke 17
4,857

ST MIRREN (0) 0 **HAMILTON** (1) 3
Quitongo 8, Geraghty 66, Hartley 82
2,555

SECOND DIVISION

AYR (2) 2 **MONTROSE** (0) 0
Dalziel 8, 16
1,166

FORFAR (1) 1 **BERWICK** (3) 4
Hannigan 11 — Fraser 6, Irvine 10, Neil 42, Kane 71
523
Sent off: D McVicar (Forfar) 54

QUEEN OF SOUTH (0) 0 **EAST FIFE** (1) 2
Scott 42, Dwarika 70
1,081
Sent off: J Cusick (East Fife) 86

STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 0 **CLYDE** (1) 1
McCarron 5
800

STIRLING (0) 1 **STRANRAER** (0) 1
Bone 56 — Ferguson 86
811

THIRD DIVISION

ALBION (0) 0 **LIVINGSTON** (1) 2
Young 14, 54 (pen)
433

BRECHIN (0) 1 **QUEEN'S PARK** (0) 0
Mitchell 73
306

CALEY THIS (0) 1 **ALLOA** (0) 1
Christie 82 — Rixon 79
1,181

COWDENBEATH (0) 2 **ROSS CO** (0) 0
Conn 61, 87
330

EAST STIRLING (0) 0 **ARBROATH** (1) 1
Gardner 30
335

CONFERENCE

BROMSGROVE (1) 4 **BATH** (1) 1
Carter 1, Amos 67, Hunt 76, 90 — Crisp 21 (og)
796

DOVER (1) 1 **STALYBRIDGE** (1) 3
Hayes 32 (pen) — Ryan 12, Goodacre 80, O'Shaughnessy 90
1,069
Sent off: Lindsey (Dover) 45

HEDNESFORD (0) 1 **MORECAMBE** (1) 2
Devine 77 — Knowles 45, Burns 53 (pen)
1,271

KETTERING (1) 4 **ALTRINCHAM** (1) 2
Alford 1, 47, 71, Scott 90 — Terry 8 (pen), Heesom 77
1,369
Sent off: Harmon (Kettering) 72, Green (Altrincham) 74

MACCLESFIELD (0) 1 **FARNBOROUGH** (0) 0
Sorvel 90
1,721

RUNCORN (0) 0 **STEVENAGE** (3) 8
442 — Hayles 2, 20, 49, Venables 34, 60, Berry 57, Browne 62, Smith 76

SLOUGH (1) 1 **NORTHWICH** (1) 1
West 15 — Vicary 21
703

SOUTHPORT (1) 1 **GATESHEAD** (0) 0
Haw 35
1,008

TELFORD (0) 0 **DAG AND RED** (0) 0
711

WELLING (0) 0 **HALIFAX** (0) 0
666

WOKING (0) 0 **KIDDERMINSTER** (0) 0
2,364
Sent off: Timothy (Woking) 84

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Macclesfield	21	8	1	2	18	10	6	2	2	18	14	45
2 Woking	18	8	1	0	19	3	4	0	5	16	17	37
3 Kidderminster	19	7	2	0	21	8	3	2	5	17	20	34
4 Hednesford	16	4	2	2	15	8	6	0	2	15	7	32
5 Gateshead	19	5	3	1	13	8	4	2	4	11	10	32
6 Stevenage	15	4	1	2	18	8	5	2	1	21	11	30
7 Kettering	20	6	2	1	22	8	2	3	6	18	27	29
8 Southport	18	4	2	3	17	11	4	2	3	18	16	28
9 Bromsgrove	19	6	2	2	20	11	2	2	5	10	19	28
10 Halifax	20	7	1	3	17	10	1	3	5	6	13	28
11 Morecambe	17	7	0	2	22	12	1	2	5	8	18	26
12 Slough	20	2	4	5	20	26	5	0	4	15	13	25
13 Northwich	15	4	0	3	14	12	3	3	2	12	11	24
14 Farnborough	15	4	3	1	14	5	2	2	3	11	16	23
15 Altrincham	18	3	3	3	15	15	2	3	4	9	14	21
16 Stalybridge	19	4	1	5	14	19	2	2	5	10	11	21
17 Welling	19	3	3	3	14	13	2	2	6	12	17	20
18 Runcorn	19	4	2	3	13	18	1	1	8	11	26	18
19 Bath	20	3	1	5	8	14	2	1	8	7	20	17
20 Telford	16	3	3	3	12	11	1	1	5	6	16	16
21 Dover	19	2	0	7	12	19	1	4	5	12	19	13
22 Dag & Red	18	2	3	4	12	19	1	1	7	3	15	13

NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

FA TROPHY

Third qualifying round: Accrington Stanley 2 Gresley 3; Ashton United 1 Lancaster 1; Bishop Auckland 0 Witton 0, Blyth Spartans 3 Gretna 2; Boreham Wood 3 Heybridge Swifts 0, Bromley 1 Oxford City 1; Burton 3 Bamber Bridge 3; Cambridge City 2 Hendon 0; Carshalton 1 Braintree 1, Chelmsford 2 Yeading 1, Chertsey 0 Purfleet 1, Chorley 3 Winsford 1 Dorchester 2 Hayes 3 Dudley 4 VS Rugby 3, Emley 3 Great Harwood 1: Gloucester 5 Aldershot Town 1, Halesowen 0 Bilston 0: Hitchin 1 Bognor 2, Ilkeston 0 Gainsborough 5, Leek 0 Boston 0; Matlock 1 Buxton 0, Molesey 2 Staines 2: Radcliffe 3 Farsley Celtic 1, Rothwell 3 Uxbridge 2, Spennymoor 0 Nuneaton 2; St Albans 4 Thame 2 Stafford 1 Tamworth 1: Sudbury 2 Tooting 0, Sutton United 0 Trowbridge 1, Wembley 2 Bashley 0, Worcester 3 Aylesbury 0; Newport AFC 1 Grays 0

UNIBOND

Premier division: Colwyn Bay 0 Guiseley 0. Droylsden 2 Frickley 2. Hyde 4 Marine 0. Knowsley 0 Barrow 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bamber Bridge	21	13	6	2	48	18	45
Boston Utd	22	13	2	7	45	26	41
Guiseley	21	10	7	4	34	23	37
Hyde	20	11	3	6	40	21	36
Barrow	16	10	4	2	40	17	34
Gainsborough	19	9	5	5	30	20	32
Witton Alb	20	10	2	8	33	31	32
Emley	20	9	4	7	26	21	31
Leek Town	20	7	7	6	30	23	28
Acc Stanley	17	8	3	6	31	27	27
B Auckland	20	7	6	7	26	28	27
Blyth Sp	18	7	4	7	30	28	25
Spennymoor	19	6	7	6	26	25	25
Marine	16	6	5	5	19	19	23
Chorley	19	6	4	9	28	35	22
Colwyn Bay	18	4	8	6	17	25	20
Frickley	18	4	6	8	23	36	18
Winsford	15	4	5	6	12	24	17
Droylsden	20	4	4	12	25	55	16
Knowsley	21	4	3	14	24	51	15
Buxton	21	3	5	13	20	43	14
Matlock	19	3	4	12	28	38	13

First division: Atherton LR 4 Worksop 1, Bradford Park Avenue 1 Warrington 0, Congleton 0 Alfreton 1; Eastwood Town 2 Workington 1, Harrogate Town 2 Curzon Ashton 4, Leigh 2 Lincoln United 0. Whitley Bay 2 Netherfield 1.

BEAZER HOMES

Premier division: Baldock 1 Merthyr 1, Cheltenham 1 Crawley 1; Rushden and Diamonds 7 Atherstone 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Rushden & D	16	14	1	1	47	14	43
Cheltenham	18	11	3	4	39	26	36
Gloucester	18	10	4	4	35	20	34
Worcester	17	10	4	3	28	14	34
Halesowen	15	8	5	2	31	22	29
Merthyr	18	9	2	7	36	33	29
Newport AFC	16	8	3	5	26	21	27
Burton	16	7	4	5	29	23	25
Gresley R	17	7	4	6	25	24	25
Cambridge C	17	8	1	8	28	28	25
Hastings	16	6	5	5	28	25	23
Baldock	16	6	4	6	29	20	22
Crawley	16	5	6	5	19	20	21
Chelmsford	17	5	5	7	19	25	20
Dorchester	14	5	2	7	27	23	17
Sudbury	14	4	5	5	26	26	17
Gravesend & N	14	5	2	7	24	25	17
Atherstone	16	3	5	8	29	35	14
Ilkeston	16	4	2	10	22	43	14
Salisbury	13	3	3	7	20	28	12
VS Rugby	18	2	4	12	14	46	10
Stafford	18	0	2	16	21	59	2

Midland division: Bridgnorth 2 Racing Club Warwick 4, Buckingham 1 Grantham 0; Evesham 0 Moor Green 5; Hinckley 1 Paget 2; Leicester United 2 Bury Town 4; Redditch 1 Stourbridge 1, Solihull 1 Bedworth 3

Southern division: Erith and Belvedere 0 Witney 5; Fisher 93 0 Ashford 0; Forest Green 2 Sittingbourne 0, Margate 2 Newport IoW 2, Waterlooville 1 Fareham 0, Weston-super-Mare 2 Tonbridge Angels 0, Weymouth 2 Cinderford 0; Yate 2 Havant 1

ICIS

Premier division: Bishop's Stortford 2 Walton and Hersham 0, Kingstonian 0 Enfield 1, Yeovil 5 Dulwich 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Enfield	18	13	3	2	39	9	42
Dulwich	15	9	4	2	32	17	31
Boreham Wood	16	9	4	3	25	13	31
Yeovil	16	9	3	4	37	23	30
Carshalton	14	9	2	3	25	19	29
St Albans	15	8	4	3	28	14	28
Kingstonian	17	7	7	3	22	14	28
Hayes	14	6	7	1	18	8	25
Harrow Bor	13	7	2	4	24	19	23
Aylesbury	14	6	4	4	26	18	22
Sutton	16	5	7	4	31	25	22
B Stortford	14	5	4	5	20	19	19
Yeading	17	3	7	7	17	23	16
Hitchin	14	3	5	6	13	21	14
Chertsey	15	4	2	9	16	30	14
Molesey	15	3	3	9	16	31	12
Walton & H	14	3	2	9	11	26	11
Worthing	13	2	4	7	17	27	10
Hendon	12	2	3	7	10	22	9
Purfleet	12	1	5	6	10	22	8
Bromley	14	2	2	10	11	31	8
Grays	14	1	4	9	8	25	7

First division: Basingstoke 2 Whyteleafe 2, Marlow 1 Chesham 2, Wokingham 3 Abingdon Town 4 Postponed: Berkhamsted v Billericay. Second division: Bedford Town 6 Leatherhead 1 Bracknell 1 Metropolitan Police 0, Chalfont St Peter 1 Tilbury 0; Cheshunt 0 Canvey Island 0, Collier Row 2 Hungerford 1, Croydon 0 Edgware 1, Hampton 3 Ware 1, Saffron Walden 0 Banstead 0, Wivenhoe 2 Hemel Hempstead 1 Third division: Aveley 0 Harlow 1, Cove 1 Lewes 0; East Thurrock 4 Camberley 1, Epsom and Ewell 1 Leighton 2; Harefield 0 Kingsbury 1, Hertford 5 Southall 0, Horsham 1 Windsor and Eton 1, Wealdstone 2 Clapton 1, Wingate and Finchley 2 Northwood 0. Postponed: Tring v Hornchurch.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Consett 2 Stockton 4; Crook 1 Billingham Synthonia 1; Durham 2 Bedlington 1, Eppleton CW 0 Chester-le-Street 6 Guisborough 4 Shildon 2: Murton 3 Ferryhill 0; Seaham Red Star 2 Peterlee 1, West Auckland 1 Whitby 2. Whickham 0 Dunston Federation 2

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Abingdon United 3 Shortwood 1; Brackley 1 North Leigh 0; Cirencester 1 Burnham 0: Carterton 2 Endsleigh 4. Fairford 5 Bicester 0, Lambourn Sports 2 Almondsbury 1. Tuffley 3 Banbury 0 Postponed: Kintbury v Swindon Supermarine.

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bourne 2 Wellingborough 1, Desborough 3 Northampton Spencer 3; Holbeach 3 Kempston 1, Long Buckby 2 Mirrlees Blackstone 2; Potton 0 Raunds 4, St Neots 1 Boston 2; Spalding 1 Eynesbury 0, Stamford 1 Stotfold 1; Wootton 2 S and L Corby 2 Postponed: Newport Pagnell v Cogenhoe

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Boldmere St Michaels 0 Armitage 4, Boldmere Swifts 0 Chasetown 1, Kynpersley 1 Halesowen Harriers 2, Oldbury 3 Sandwell 2: Rocester 1 Willenhall 2; Shifnal 0 Hinckley Athletic 3 Stapenhill 0 Stratford 3, West Midlands Police 1 Barwell 1

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cornard 2 Stowmarket 2, Felixstowe 0 March 0. Halstead 2 Harwich and Parkeston 1. Lowestoft 1 Sudbury 1; Soham 2 Clacton 2; Tiptree 3 Wisbech 1.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Aerostructures 2 Whitchurch 2, Andover 2 Ryde Sports 2, East Cowes 6 Petersfield 1, Gosport 2 Wimborne 2, Portsmouth RN 1 Lymington 2 Postponed: Totton v Bemerton Heath Harlequins, Bournemouth v Eastleigh, Brockenhurst v BAT; Downton v Christchurch, Swanage and Herston v Thatcham

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Buckingham Athletic 3 Milton Keynes 2, London Colney 6 Dunstable 1, Potters Bar 2 Letchworth 2; Shillington 0 Arlesey 2. Postponed: Harpenden v Toddington

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool Rovers 0 Trafford 1; Bootle 3 Skelmersdale 1, Chadderton 2 Nantwich 2, Clitheroe 0 Eastwood Hanley 1, Darwen 0 Flixton 0, Kidsgrove 1 Maine Road 0, Mossley 1 Burscough 0; Newcastle Town 2 Holker Old Boys 0, Penrith 1 Prescot 1, St Helens 7 Rossendale 0, Salford 2 Glossop North End 2.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare 0 Denaby 2, Arnold 0 North Ferriby 2; Ashfield 0 Hatfield Main 0; Brigg 3 Belper Town 0, Goole 3 Hucknall 1 Hallam 2 Pickering 1, Liversedge 1 Sheffield 1, Maltby MW 4 Glasshoughton Welfare 3, Ossett Albion 0 Thackley 0; Stocksbridge PS 3 Ossett Town 4

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury 1, Dartford 1. Cup: Second round: Beckenham 0n Chatham 2, Corinthian 5 Ramsgate 5 (aet). Cray 1 Furness 2. Crockenhill 1 Greenwich 1; Hythe 1 Tunbridge Wells 2 (aet). Sheppey 3 Deal 2, Slade Green 4 Thamesmead 2; Whitstable 2 Folkestone 1.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Clapham 4 Old Danes 0; Latymer Old Boys 2 Old Aloysians 1 Senior first division: Phoenix Old Boys 5 Chertsey Old Salesians 1. Senior second division: Mill Hill County Old Boys 3 Old Meadonians 2; Old Wokingians 2 Old Minchindenians 5, Phoenix Old Boys 2 Old Southallians 0 Senior third division: Old Buckwellians 0 Old Reigations 0; Old Hamptonians 2 Old Tollingtonians 1, Glyn Old Boys 0 John Fisher Old Boys 3 Postponed: Old Dorkinians v Old Grocers

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal 2 Southend United 1; Cambridge United 1 Charlton 1, Ipswich Town 2 QPR 2, Leyton Orient 0 Millwall 2, West Ham 3 Fulham 1. Postponed: Portsmouth v Gillingham Second division: Barnet 4 Tottenham 0; Brentford 1 AFC Bournemouth 2, Bristol City 2 Colchester United 1, Reading 3 Wycombe Wanderers 3, Swindon Town 2 Bristol Rovers 1.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Kew Association 0 Old Esthameians 1, Alexandra Park 4 Old Bromleians 0, Old Parmiterians 1 Lensbury 0; Old Westminster Citizens 4 Brentham 1, Merton 2 Reigate Priory 3.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: First division: Old Grammarians 1 Southgate County 2 Second division: City of London 6 Old Beelonians 0; Old Finchleians 5 Old Woodhouseians 0; UCL Academicals 3 Hadley 1. Third division: Fulham Compton Old Boys 1 Old Sinmarobians 3; London Welsh 5 Polygons 2; Old Fairlopians 3 Birkbeck College 4. Fourth division: Economicals 4 Bourneside 3, Centymca 2 Inland Revenue 2: NSY Comets 2 Mayfield 2, Old Colleans 1 Brent 0.

FA VASE: Second round replay: Bishop Sutton 2 Dorking 0.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash 2 Netheam 2; Bedfont 4 Walton Casuals 2; Chipstead 3 Farnham 1, Cranleigh 1 Ashford 4; Eton Wick 3 Godalming and Guildford 2. Hartley Wintney 2 Cobham 1, Horley 2 DCA Basingstoke 2, Merstham 1 Peppard 3, Sandhurst 1 Raynes Park Vale 3, Viking Sports 1 Westfield 3 Postponed: Reading v Feltham

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Bloxwich 4 Highgate 2. Coventry Sphinx 2 Shirley 0; Knowle 2 Olton Royale 1, Northfield 0 Southam 2, Upton 0 Coleshill 3, Wellesbourne 1 Chelmsley 0; West Midland Fire Service 3 Kings Heath 2.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Basildon 3 Eton Manor 0; Brentwood 2 Maldon 1; East Ham 2 Hullbridge Sports 2: Great Wakering 0 Sawbridgeworth 1, Southend Manor 0 Burnham Ramblers 5; Stansted 1 Romford 4

TAYCARS TROPHY: First round: Brechin Vics 0 Glenrothes 4, Broughty 6 Steelend Vics 1, Coupar Angus 0 Dundonald Bluebell 4, Crossgates Primrose 4 Arbroath SC 1; Downfield 9 Thornton Hibs 2: Hill Of Beath 4 Bankfoot 0; Lochgelly RA 1 Forfar West End 0, Oakley 3 Arbroath Vics 0, Rosyth Recreation 3 Jeanfield Swifts 1, St Andrews 1 Montrose Roselea 0. St Joseph's 2 Elmwood 1; Scone Thistle 6 Kirkcaldy YM 2, Tayport 0 Newburgh 0. Tulliallan Thistle 0 Kinnie Thistle 1, Violet 1 Kelty Hearts 1 Postponed: Lochee v Lochore Welfare.

HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Brora 1 Lossiemouth 2; Elgin 4 Rothes 3, Fraserburgh 7 Buckie Thistle 2, Huntly 2 Keith 0; Nairn County 2 Clachnacuddin 1, Peterhead 5 Forres Mechanics 2: Wick Academy 2 Deveronvale 1 Postponed: Fort William v Cove

NATIONAL

LEAGUE OF WALES: Alan Lido 0 Newtown 0, Bangor City 2 Ebbw Vale 2; Caersws 2 Cwmbran 1, Conwy 7 Rhyl 2, Holywell 2 Aberystwyth 1, Inter Cardiff 0 Flint Town 5, Llanelli 0 Barry 5, Porthmadog 1 Briton Ferry 2, Ton Pentre 2 Cemaes Bay 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Barry Town	15	11	2	2	39	9	35
Conwy	15	9	5	1	46	21	32
Flint Town	16	9	3	4	32	18	30
Newtown	14	8	3	3	18	9	27
Connah's Quay	13	7	5	1	34	20	26
Bangor City	16	7	5	4	30	22	26
Holywell	16	7	3	6	30	29	24
Ebbw Vale	17	6	6	5	24	23	24
Caernarfon	17	5	7	5	29	26	22
Inter Cardiff	16	6	4	6	26	27	22
Caersws	16	7	1	8	38	47	22
Cwmbran	15	5	6	4	24	16	21
Llansantffraid	16	5	4	7	25	27	19
Ton Pentre	15	5	4	6	22	24	19
Alan Lido	14	5	3	6	15	26	18
Rhyl	15	4	3	8	16	33	15
Porthmadog	15	4	2	9	24	31	14
Aberystwyth	15	3	4	8	23	28	13
Cemaes Bay	15	3	4	8	21	36	13
Briton Ferry	13	4	1	8	19	37	13
Llanelli	16	2	1	13	19	42	7

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bangor 1 Glentoran 6, Cliftonville 0 Portadown 3; Crusaders 3 Linfield 0, Glenavon 3 Ards 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Portadown	9	7	2	0	25	8	23
Glenavon	9	5	2	2	14	8	17
Crusaders	9	5	2	2	13	9	17
Glentoran	9	4	3	2	19	10	15
Linfield	9	3	1	5	11	18	10
Cliftonville	9	1	4	4	5	10	7
Ards	9	1	3	5	10	15	6
Bangor	9	1	1	7	9	22	4

First division: Ballyclare 2 Larne 3, Ballymena 0 Newry 0; Distillery 1 Coleraine 1, Omagh 1 Carrick 0

EUROPEAN

DUTCH LEAGUE: Nijmegen 0 PSV Eindhoven 5; Sparta Rotterdam 1 RKC Waalwijk 0; Vitesse Arnhem 2 FC Utrecht 1, SC Heerenveen 1 FC Twente Enschede 1; Fortuna Sittard 1 Feyenoord 0; Breda 4 FC Volendam 0; Deventer 1 Roda JC Kerkrade 2; Doetinchem 1 Willem II Tilburg 2.

FRENCH LEAGUE: Le Havre 2 Montpellier 2; Lyons 1 Lille 1; Rennes 2 Gueugnon 1; Metz 0 Nantes 0; Auxerre 1 Guingamp 2; Martigues 1 Saint-Etienne 1; Nice 3 Bastia 1; Paris Saint-Germain 3 Bordeaux 0; Lens 1 Cannes 1.

GERMAN LEAGUE: Werder Bremen 0 Hansa Rostock 2; 1860 Munich 0 Bayer Leverkusen 1; Uerdingen 0 Borussia Dortmund 2; Karlsruhe 4 Borussia Mönchengladbach 0; Schalke 2 Eintracht Frankfurt 0; Kaiserslautern 1 Freiburg 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
B Dortmund	15	10	4	1	40	19	34
Bayern Munich	14	10	1	3	30	18	31
B Leverkusen	15	6	7	2	22	13	25
Moenchngldbch	15	8	1	6	26	26	25
Hamburg SV	15	5	8	2	24	19	23
Hansa Rostock	15	5	7	3	25	19	22
VfB Stuttgart	15	5	7	3	33	30	22
Schalke 04	15	5	7	3	19	18	22
E Frankfurt	15	4	5	6	25	28	17
Werder Bremen	15	3	8	4	16	20	17
SC Karlsruhe	15	4	5	6	21	26	17
FC St Pauli	15	4	4	7	21	26	16
Munich 1860	15	3	6	6	17	23	15
KFC Uerdingen	15	2	8	5	12	15	14
Kaiserslautn	15	2	8	5	17	21	14
F Dusseldorf	15	2	7	6	16	24	13
SC Friburg	15	3	4	8	11	22	13
FC Cologne	14	1	7	6	14	22	10

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Cagliari 2 Naples 0, Cremonese 2 Padova 1; Fiorentina 1 Inter Milan 1; AC Milan 3 Piacenza 0; Roma 2 Bari 1, Sampdoria 1 Udinese 0; Torino 0 Atalanta 1, Vicenza 1 Lazio 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
AC Milan	11	7	3	1	19	9	24
Parma	10	6	3	1	16	9	21
Lazio	11	5	4	2	18	10	19
Fiorentina	11	6	1	4	17	13	19
Atalanta	11	5	4	2	14	12	19
Juventus	10	5	2	3	15	10	17
Napoli	11	4	5	2	11	9	17
Roma	11	4	4	3	12	9	16
Vicenza	11	4	4	3	10	8	16
Inter Milan	11	3	6	2	12	8	15
Udinese	11	4	3	4	11	11	15
Sampdoria	11	3	5	3	14	12	14
Cagliari	11	4	1	6	9	14	13
Piacenza	11	3	2	6	11	22	11
Torino	11	2	4	5	8	14	10
Bari	11	2	2	7	15	23	8
Cremonese	11	1	3	7	9	18	6
Padova	11	1	2	8	10	20	5

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Sociedad 1 Barcelona 1, Salamanca 2 Athletic Bilbao 1; Albacete 1 Valencia 3; Racing Santander 0 Betis 0, Atletico Madrid 3 Oviedo 0; Sevilla 1 Rayo Vallecano 0. Espanyol 1 Zaragoza 1, Celta Vigo 2 Merida 0; Deportivo La Coruna 3 Valladolid 1

Endsleigh Insurance League

FIRST DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Millwall	19	4	3	2	10	8	5	4	1	13	9	34	23
2 Norwich	19	5	3	1	11	6	4	3	3	19	14	33	30
3 Grimsby	19	5	4	0	11	5	4	2	4	12	14	33	23
4 Leicester	19	3	2	4	13	14	6	3	1	18	12	32	31
5 Birmingham	19	4	5	1	17	12	4	2	3	13	10	31	30
6 Sunderland	18	4	3	1	12	7	4	4	2	9	8	31	21
7 Tranmere	17	5	3	2	20	11	3	3	1	9	5	30	29
8 Huddersfld	19	7	1	2	20	12	1	4	4	6	13	29	26
9 Stoke	19	4	4	2	12	6	3	3	3	17	18	28	29
10 Derby	19	4	4	1	12	6	3	3	4	14	18	28	26
11 Barnsley	19	5	4	1	13	12	2	2	5	11	18	27	24
12 Charlton	19	4	5	1	15	11	2	4	3	8	8	27	23
13 Oldham	19	4	4	2	17	12	2	4	3	10	10	26	27
14 Ipswich	19	5	2	3	20	16	1	4	4	12	14	24	32
15 West Brom	19	5	1	4	13	12	2	2	5	10	15	24	23
16 Southend	19	4	3	2	10	9	2	3	5	9	15	24	19
17 C Palace	18	2	4	3	10	12	3	3	3	10	11	22	20
18 Reading	19	3	2	4	13	15	1	6	3	8	10	20	21
19 Sheff Utd	19	3	2	5	14	18	2	1	6	11	17	18	25
20 Wolves	19	3	3	3	11	11	1	3	6	11	17	18	22
21 Watford	19	2	5	3	12	12	1	3	5	10	16	17	22
22 Portsmth	19	2	4	3	14	14	1	3	6	12	20	16	26
23 Luton	19	1	3	5	8	13	2	3	5	4	12	15	12
24 Port Vale	19	0	3	6	8	16	2	5	3	12	12	14	20

SECOND DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Swindon	18	5	3	1	15	6	6	2	1	18	8	38	33
2 Notts Co	18	6	1	2	18	9	4	4	1	12	7	35	30
3 Crewe	17	7	1	0	19	6	3	3	3	15	12	34	34
4 Chesterfld	18	7	1	1	19	6	2	2	5	8	13	30	27
5 Wycombe	18	3	5	1	11	9	4	3	2	16	11	29	27
6 Blackpool	18	5	2	2	13	8	3	3	3	12	11	29	25
7 Wrexham	18	5	3	1	21	11	2	4	3	9	11	28	30
8 Burnley	18	5	3	1	18	10	2	3	4	9	13	27	27
9 Shrewsbury	18	5	0	4	15	10	3	2	4	11	15	26	26
10 Stockport	18	2	6	1	10	7	4	2	3	12	9	26	22
11 Bradford	18	5	2	2	15	12	2	2	5	10	16	25	25
12 Oxford Utd	18	6	1	2	15	8	0	6	3	7	11	25	22
13 Bournemth	18	5	2	2	12	9	2	2	5	7	13	25	19
14 Peterboro	18	4	3	2	16	9	1	4	4	9	19	22	25
15 Bristol R	18	2	2	5	9	17	4	2	3	10	12	22	19
16 York	18	3	3	3	12	11	3	0	6	11	18	21	23
17 Walsall	18	2	5	2	12	11	3	1	5	8	6	21	20
18 Bristol C	17	3	4	2	9	6	2	2	4	8	16	21	17
19 Rotherham	18	5	3	1	17	10	0	2	7	6	22	20	23
20 Swansea	18	3	4	2	12	9	1	3	5	7	17	19	19
21 Carlisle	18	4	3	2	13	8	0	3	6	8	20	18	21
22 Brentford	18	5	0	4	10	9	0	3	6	4	15	18	14
23 Brighton	18	2	2	5	8	14	1	1	7	6	18	12	14
24 Hull	18	1	4	4	8	13	0	4	5	5	14	11	13

THIRD DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Chester	18	6	2	1	22	10	5	2	2	15	10	37	37
2 Gillingham	18	7	1	1	15	2	3	5	1	10	4	36	25
3 Preston	18	5	3	1	25	10	4	5	0	16	8	35	41
4 Rochdale	18	3	4	2	18	13	5	1	3	14	7	29	32
5 Plymouth	18	5	2	2	16	8	3	3	3	15	13	29	31
6 Colchester	18	5	2	2	17	10	2	4	3	11	13	27	28
7 Bury	18	2	4	3	6	11	5	2	2	17	14	27	23
8 Darlington	18	3	3	3	9	8	3	5	1	10	9	26	19
9 Doncaster	18	5	3	1	10	8	2	2	5	9	17	26	19
10 Wigan	18	5	1	3	12	12	1	6	2	11	9	25	23
11 Cambridge	18	3	4	2	16	11	3	1	5	13	20	23	29
12 L Orient	18	5	2	2	14	8	1	3	5	7	17	23	21
13 Scunthorpe	18	3	3	3	11	11	2	4	3	15	11	22	26
14 Exeter	18	3	4	2	9	10	1	5	3	9	13	21	18
15 Mansfield	18	1	5	3	11	15	3	3	3	17	21	20	28
16 Hereford	18	2	3	4	14	15	2	5	2	7	8	20	21
17 Barnet	18	3	3	3	13	14	1	5	3	6	10	20	19
18 Cardiff	18	2	2	5	7	8	3	3	3	11	11	20	18
19 Northamptn	18	3	3	3	14	10	2	2	5	4	9	20	18
20 Fulham	18	3	6	0	16	8	0	4	5	6	14	19	22
21 Scarboro	18	2	6	1	10	10	2	1	6	11	18	19	21
22 Hartlepool	18	3	6	0	12	8	1	1	7	4	20	19	16
23 Lincoln	18	1	3	5	8	16	3	2	4	9	17	17	17
24 Torquay	18	2	2	5	8	20	0	3	6	9	20	11	17

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Rangers	15	5	2	1	17	7	6	1	0	17	3	36	+24
2 Celtic	15	3	3	1	10	7	6	2	0	16	6	32	+13
3 Hibernian	15	4	2	1	15	10	3	2	3	10	11	25	+4
4 Raith	15	4	2	2	11	5	2	1	4	7	16	21	-3
5 Aberdeen	14	3	0	3	12	7	3	2	3	10	11	20	+4
6 Hearts	15	5	1	2	17	12	0	2	5	5	16	18	-6
7 Motherwell	15	2	3	2	7	7	0	5	3	6	10	14	-4
8 Partick	15	2	3	3	7	11	1	1	5	4	15	13	-15
9 Kilmarnock	14	2	2	3	10	10	1	1	5	4	11	12	-7
10 Falkirk	15	2	1	5	6	9	1	2	4	6	13	12	-10

FIRST DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Dunfermline	15	4	1	2	11	7	5	0	3	15	7	28	+12
2 G Morton	15	4	1	2	13	8	4	2	2	13	6	27	+12
3 Dundee	14	1	4	1	8	7	6	2	0	19	9	27	+11
4 Dundee Utd	15	5	1	2	15	9	3	2	2	8	9	27	+5
5 Clydebank	15	4	2	2	10	9	2	3	2	9	10	23	0
6 Airdrie	15	2	3	3	10	11	4	1	2	10	8	22	+1
7 St Johnstn	15	4	2	2	10	7	2	1	4	8	11	21	0
8 St Mirren	15	1	2	4	6	14	2	4	2	10	9	15	-7
9 Dumbarton	14	2	0	6	6	18	1	0	5	8	15	9	-19
10 Hamilton	15	0	1	6	5	15	1	2	5	5	10	6	-15

SECOND DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 East Fife	15	3	3	1	10	7	7	0	1	11	3	33	+11
2 Berwick	15	4	2	1	11	2	4	1	3	17	12	27	+14
3 Stirling	15	4	3	1	12	7	3	3	1	13	8	27	+10
4 Stenhsmuir	15	4	1	2	13	6	3	1	4	10	11	23	+6
5 Stranraer	15	4	4	0	11	3	1	4	2	8	12	23	+4
6 Forfar	15	4	1	3	7	14	2	3	2	8	7	22	-6
7 Clyde	15	2	1	4	10	9	2	5	1	6	3	18	+4
8 Queen Of S	15	1	3	4	8	17	1	3	3	9	9	12	-9
9 Ayr	15	1	2	5	7	13	2	1	4	4	8	12	-10
10 Montrose	15	1	2	4	6	12	0	1	7	4	22	6	-24

THIRD DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Livingston	15	3	2	2	7	4	7	1	0	15	3	33	+15
2 Ross Co	15	4	4	0	17	7	3	1	3	10	11	26	+9
3 Brechin	15	4	2	2	9	5	3	3	1	8	5	26	+7
4 Caley This	15	4	2	2	20	12	3	2	2	16	6	25	+18
5 Cowdenbth	15	5	1	2	15	8	2	1	4	10	15	23	+2
6 Arbroath	15	1	4	2	9	11	4	2	2	11	11	21	-2
7 Alloa	15	3	0	4	8	16	1	4	3	6	9	16	-11
8 Queen's Pk	15	3	1	3	8	8	1	1	6	7	16	14	-9
9 East Stirling	15	1	1	5	8	15	2	3	3	12	14	13	-9
10 Albion	15	2	1	5	13	17	1	0	6	8	24	10	-20

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
2	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	1

30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	2	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	3	1	1

FORECAST: Telephone claims for 24pts, dividend forecast is moderate with 10 score draws and 6 no-score draws

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Teenager ends Bradford's hopes

Cook's accuracy gives Leeds the Trophy edge

Leeds	42
Bradford Bulls	28

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

DEAN BELL, the Leeds coach, began his programme notes yesterday with an apology for the home defeat by Sheffield Eagles in the Stones Championship the previous week, and might by tempted to add another after his side's faltering advance to the quarter-finals of rugby league's Regal Trophy at Headingley.

All would have been lost with defeat, a possibility that Leeds never really flirted with, although a derby cup-tie that they were coasting for an hour ended with Bradford drawing level in try-scoring terms. Half a dozen apiece brought the difference down to the goalkicking of Paul Cook. The teenage England wing was faultless in converting Leeds's six tries and adding three penalties to bring his points haul this season to 160.

As well as relief at Cook's accuracy, Leeds also felt grateful for the waywardness of Ellis in missing five of seven goal attempts for Bradford Bulls.

Bell's only cause for satisfaction was surviving a hazardous third-round tie. "If we can't hold a team for six tackles, we have not a chance," he said. "We've only played one decent game recently. I can assure you, if I had a bit more depth here, I'd be using it."

With Paul Newlove in the side, as he was until two hours before the start, Bradford might have brought off an upset, but the Great Britain centre is a law unto himself these days. A message about the recurrence of a back problem was passed from him to Matthew Elliott, the Bulls' assistant coach.

Newlove, still on the transfer list at a world record £750,000, and trapped at Odsal with no takers at that price, is not the only one in limbo. Bradford's hugely disappointing season is now on hold until the Challenge Cup in the new year, and the start of Super League next March.

Full results and league tables ... Page 34

Unlike Bell, Brian Smith, the Bradford coach and chief executive, was at a Super League summit in Los Angeles, and was fortunate to miss the follow-up to the Bulls' slump to an 11-man St Helens nine days earlier.

It was at his third attempt that Craig Innes triggered what had the early portents of a landslide. Two scoring passes juggled from his grasp before the New Zealander finally got one from Lowes to stick in the first of three first-half tries scored down Bradford's jittery right side.

In an error-strewn game, Leeds were hardly innocents, but they proved themselves marginally the more accomplished side on a dank and tricky afternoon for handling.

Bradford's decision to send Deryck Fox back to Featherstone is looking more ill-advised by the match. Robbie Paul sank without trace against St Helens, so what chance did an amateur from Dudley Hill stand at scrum half? It was far too deep a deep end for the diminutive Craig Robinson, whose lack of experience was cruely exposed on his debut.

Robinson's loss of possession was the precursor to the next Leeds try, scored by Mann, who was the one outstanding player on the home side. Bradford's marking and tackling was again woeful as Leeds ran the ball wide, and Innes, shaking off Graham and Simpson, scampered over for his second score.

The only interruption in the procession was a try for Bradford by Brian McDermott, who picked up after Forshaw had narrowly failed to intercept, but Cook's metronomic kicking maintained the flow into the second half. Holroyd's long pass was met by Iro, who dummied a leaden-footed opposition cover, that soon yielded again to a fine solo try by Shaw and another by Cummins, after Paul had found himself caught in two minds and threw out a wild pass.

Complacency had reared itself as Hassan picked up a speculative kick through by Simpson, who then added a try of his own after evading four tacklers. The Leeds line was breached at will thereafter as Knox, Ellis on an 80-metre interception, and Hassan touched down, for his second try, with Leeds tired and glad of the hooter.

SCORERS: Leeds: Tries: Innes (2), Mann, Iro, Shaw, Cummins. Goals: Cook (5). Bradford: Tries: Hassan (2), McDermott, Simpson, Knox, Ellis. Goals: Ellis (2).
LEEDS: A Tait, P Cook, K Iro, C Innes, F Cummins; T Kemp (sub: M Forshaw, 27mn), G Holroyd; N Harmon (sub: Howard, 54), M Shaw, H Howard (sub: Barrie McDermott, 29), J Lowes, G Mann, G Mercer.
BRADFORD BULLS: R Simpson; G Christie, N Graham, D Turpin, S Ellis; R Paul, C Robinson; A Boothroyd (sub: C Winterburn, 26: sub: Boothroyd, 60), J Donohue (sub: Winterburn, 72), J Harner, S Knox, Brian McDermott (sub: C Hassan, 62), A Wilson.
Referee: J Connolly.



Bowden leads a Leicester attack against Ipswich before being forced to leave the field with a recurring shin injury. Photograph: Ian Stewart

St Helens' blushes spared by Samoan

WIGAN, the holders, overcame Huddersfield, of the first division, to join Warrington, Halifax and St Helens, fellow Stones Championship sides, in the draw for the quarter-finals of the Regal Trophy today.Carlisle, of the second division, who won 22-17 at Hunslet to record their eleventh successive win, and Rochdale and Widnes, the first division teams, are also through.

Apollo Perelini, the Western Samoan, spared St Helens' blushes with a late try after Hull, of the first division, threatened an upset. His second touchdown clinched a 38-26 victory.

Andy Currier, the centre, scored two tries as Warrington staved off a brave fight back to win 35-22 at Batley, and Andy Farrell and Gary Connolly, the international pair, were in form in Wigan's 32-0 win at Huddersfield. Farrell, the loose forward who put off a groin operation to play, scored 16 points and Connolly crossed for two tries at centre.

Farrell, who missed only one of his seven kicks, scored a vital try three minutes before half-time to give Wigan an 18-point cushion that Huddersfield were never able to reduce. With seven first-choice players missing through injury and suspension, the first division side's mixture of teenagers and experienced heads were no match for Graeme West's men.

Stuart Spruce, the full back, scored two tries as Widnes produced a slick performance to win 32-8 at Workington, and Rochdale came from behind to win 26-14 at Dewsbury.

Halifax came from 14-0 down to overhaul London Broncos 22-18 in the London side's disappointing farewell to the Stoop Memorial Ground on Saturday. John Schuster's try, five minutes from time, ended Broncos' resistance.

Bowden achieving the right balance

Tom Chesshyre on a Peterborough pupil coping with A levels and top-class hockey



Kirsty Bowden's friends think that she is mad. Like them, she is in the middle of her final year of A levels and worrying about course work assignments and forthcoming mock exams. Yet, on top of her academic work, she is also a fully-fledged member of the Balsam Leicester women's hockey side, one of the best in the country.

This means that most Saturdays in the run-up to her exams are devoted to playing for Leicester. She also trains with the National League premier division club two nights a week (a round trip of 88 miles) and is on a rigorous and time-consuming fitness programme to build up the strength and stamina needed to play at the top level.

It does not leave much time for studying, but Bowden, 17, a pupil at the Jack Hunt School in Peterborough, is coping well. "My friends think I must be off my rocker," she said with a smile after Leicester's 1-1 draw against Ipswich on Saturday, "but I think it is all about prioritising things. Rather than spend all my spare time going out to nightclubs, I use it to play hockey and to study for my A levels."

Her level-headed approach has paid dividends. Not only has she been regularly selected to play for the England Under-21 side and appeared once for the England senior team against Russia, but also she has also been predicted to achieve two As and a B in her A levels (history, geography and biology). Her plan is to study law or psychology at Birmingham University.

"I don't want to take a sports degree because that can often lead to PE teaching, which doesn't interest me," she said. "If I study a subject like law, it will give me something to fall back on. I could have chosen to apply for Oxbridge, but I don't think it would have suited me."

Kevin Blanks, the Leicester manager, has been impressed by her play. "When Kirsty joined us this season, it was a big step up from the local side she had been playing with in Peterborough, but she handles it very well," he said. "At this level, the game is very quick and hard and you have to learn to pass the ball quickly and move. If you try to do too much on your own, you can lose possession. Kirsty has picked all this up and has shown some brilliant skills. We play her in an attacking midfield position to make the most of her quick thinking ability."

The main playing problem facing Bowden at the moment is a recurring shin splints injury, which meant that she had to be substituted after only 20 minutes on Saturday. However, even in that short period, she had shown glimpses of her skilful passing play.

Gaynor Nash, the Leicester coach, said: "Once she is fully fit, I am sure her play will fully blossom. We are a very lucky club to have her. She hardly ever panics on the ball and has fantastic vision." Her ability to keep her nerve has prompted team-mates to nickname her "Cool".

Bowden, whose ambition is to represent Great Britain at the 2000 Olympic Games, also plays for her school side, which she has helped to reach the national schools championships finals, to be held in Milton Keynes in March.

Ian Fowler, the head of physical education at Jack Hunt School, said: "Kirsty is a very modest person and the other kids have responded to her and learnt from her. Her head is pretty well screwed on. I have never heard of her missing her homework assignment."

Sponsorship from Grays, a hockey equipment company, and a £500 grant from the Sports Foundation have helped shoulder the costs of playing at such a high level. Her parents also provide support, financially and emotionally. Nan Bowden, her mother, said: "The most important thing is that she gets the right balance between hockey and her A level studies. She seems to be doing fine."

After the match on Saturday, Bowden said: "It is a hard game at this level — it is not exactly 'jolly hockey sticks' anymore. There can be some terrible injuries, but I always think if I go in as hard as everybody else then I am less likely to be hurt. I enjoy the physical side of the game."

Hammond tumbles to victory

BY PETER BRYAN

ROGER HAMMOND made the Greater London open cyclo-cross championship at Addington Hills, Croydon, a one-man race yesterday with a first-lap surge that took him clear into the lead followed by a lone time-trial to the end of the 24-kilometre event.

Victory was a repeat of the championship last year when Hammond, an amateur and university student, beat his professional and overseas challengers. His success, though, was not without frustration and danger.

Having established a lead of one minute, Hammond twice fell on the second lap but recovered to hold off his challengers, had mechanical difficulties on lap three that required a bike change, and then, three kilometres later, was halted for the fourth time when he misjudged the slippery surface of the course and again hit the ground.

After that, luck and good machine handling allowed him to remain clear and finish 45sec ahead of Barrie Clarke (Raleigh), the professional British champion, and David Baker (GT).

For Hammond, the world junior champion in 1992, his victory yesterday was his first of the season. His main targets all arrive in January: the national and then world championships — and his university finals.

Baker, selected for the Olympic mountain bike race in Atlanta next year, confirmed that the race yesterday was his last of the year. He goes into hospital shortly for surgery on a broken collarbone.

Game of confusing complexity proves compelling spectacle

Stuart Jones discovers a warm welcome waiting for him on venturing into the surreal world of the real tennis player

The expletive that Julian Snow yelled at the moment that he yielded his British title in the semi-final seemed extraordinarily out of place in the genteel surroundings of Queen's Club. Then again, he was playing a game that is arguably as bizarre as any in the world.

The complexities of real tennis are so tangled that explanations are necessary. Otherwise, a casual observer could leave the court with not the faintest idea of what has been going on, let alone with a grasp of the finer nuances. Richard Adams, mercifully, was at hand.

He is one of the organisers of the Open championship, but he was not the only helpful guide. The community of players and followers is restricted (there are only 40 courts in the world, half of them in England), but intruders, though obtrusive, are happily accommodated.

A visit to Queen's, in west London, for the championships is consequently social as much as educational. The game, virtually unchanged since it was invented supposedly by monks in the 12th century, is odd. The court contains such features as a tambour (a buttress in a corner) and a penthouse (a roof running along three sides).

The scoring is even odder. In which other sport, for instance, could spectators hear such phrases as "40-15, more than a yard worse than the last gallery", or wait for inconclusive rallies to be replayed, after a change of ends, to conclude a game?

So-called "simplified" rules filled a page in the programme and, from a position within a few feet of the court, it was comforting to hear that even the competitors themselves are occasionally confused. "What is it in games, anyone?" Lachlan Deuchar, the European champion, inquired.

From rows of chairs, set as though in a private cinema, the view is obstructed only by a net, which seems disconcertingly fragile only when the solid, hand-made balls are flying towards the rectangular hole in the wall, known as the dedans. It affords the best seats in the house.

Services are always delivered from that end and so were other examples of Snow's verbal explosions. "I've been shafted," he exclaimed, disagreeing with the judgment of the "marker", a professional who can earn more (£8 per set) for acting voluntarily as the referee than for reaching the last four.

"Serves you right for going for it," he muttered about, not to, Deuchar, an Australian who later received a warning for ball abuse. This was evidently a grudge, though not uncivil, match. Between them, they had held the British title for nine years, Snow for the past three.

Though clearly the more cautious of the two, he was sartorially the more adventurous. One of his laces was orange, the other green. He is an amateur (there are fewer than 100 professionals) and, at 31, is two years short of the age when many reach their peak.

The popularity of the sport has fluctuated and, before the French Revolution, there were as many as 700 courts within Paris alone. Because of the limited facilities, though, any proposal to attract more participants would essentially be self-defeating.

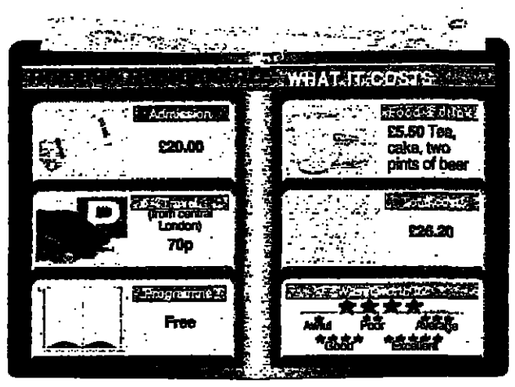
Some courts have fallen into disrepair. One, in Versailles, is an art gallery. Others have been refurbished. One was being used as a cowshed and another as a bus depot. A new building would cost about £200,000, approximately the equivalent of eight squash courts.

Such information was supplied within the convivial surroundings of the clubhouse where the spectators, about 100 of them, later assembled.

It was there that an American visitor, who had paid for tickets for four different days, expounded on his plans. He intends to invest in a court far away from the east coast, the established centre of the game in the United States. He is to introduce it to Nebraska. "Have you heard of it?" he asked rhetorically. "It's Indian for 'where the hell am I?' and there's nothing to do there but raise children and play tennis."

Should his idea come to fruition — and, given his enthusiasm, there is no reason to suppose that it will not — native Nebraskans will require extensive tuition. It is said that newcomers need to play at least 20 times before they understand merely the rudimentary tactics.

For all the complications, though, it is a compelling spectacle and the environment most agreeable. If Frank Filipelli, the Australian Open champion and the professional based at Melbourne, keeps his word, then I will make my debut there in January.



Medal calibre is missing

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN CAPE TOWN

AFTER months of intensive preparation followed by 11 days of anxious moments and nervous finales at the Olympic hockey qualifying tournament here, Great Britain's women are finally on their way to Atlanta next summer.

It was appropriate that Rhona Simpson, of Scotland, the team's leading goalscorer, should send them on their way with the only goal of the game in the team's victory over South Africa in their last match.

Britain knew that they had to avoid defeat to make sure of qualification after China beat Argentina and Holland turned in a splendid performance to defeat Germany.

Simpson's goal, after 29 minutes, was set up by Jane Sixsmith and, although Sue MacDonald missed a penalty stroke in the second half, South Africa seldom threatened in a dismal encounter with Britain content to protect their lead.

Four points covered the five qualifying countries with the Dutch sneaking through on goal difference ahead of China. The coaches of the three automatic qualifiers — the United States, Spain and Australia — were all present, but none will have been too worried about what they saw.

Korea are the exception. Their dazzling skills and speed made them favourites with the crowds and they collected four of the five awards including top team, best goalkeeper, best player and leading goalscorer. They will probably start as favourites for the gold medal in Atlanta.

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Korea	7	5	1	1	14	6	11
Great Britain	7	3	3	1	10	9	9
Germany	7	4	0	3	9	7	8
Argentina	7	3	2	2	8	7	8
Holland	7	2	3	2	14	14	7
China	7	3	1	3	8	9	7
Canada	7	1	1	5	2	7	3
South Africa	7	1	1	5	4	10	3

Top five qualify for 1996 Olympic Games

Jill Atkins, the Britain captain and one of seven survivors from the bronze medal-winning squad in Barcelona in 1992, said that she was delighted to have qualified. "We'd love to play like Korea, but it's just not in our make-up to run non-stop," she said. "We've learnt that we have to be fitter and retain possession better. It was a very tough tournament and we proved that we can cope with the pressure. I've played in teams in the past where we would never have fought back the way we did here."

Atkins said that she believed that it was in the interest of British hockey that more players were brought into the selection process and that there was increased competition for places.

If the team is to have any realistic chance of a medal, Sue Slocombe, the coach, may be forced to introduce players who could add more pace and flair.

Southgate open gap at the top

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

SOUTHGATE gained an important 2-1 victory over Old Loughtonians in a National League hockey match at Broomfield School yesterday to draw two points clear at the top of the first division.

Both defences gave little away in the first half, but the match came to life after the interval. Shaw, working his way cleverly on the right, delivered the ball to the far post for Waugh to score after 43 minutes. Shaw increased Southgate's lead after 56 minutes with a brilliant shot from a short corner.

Old Loughtonians hit back and Nick Thompson reduced the deficit from a penalty stroke, although it was not enough to save them from their first defeat.

Cannock, who were two goals up at home, through Pidcock and Crutchley, were checked by Barford Tigers who levelled at 2-2 through Dharminder Singh and Harmandeep Sasghera.

Reading maintained their challenge with a 4-0 away win over Stourport, Pearn scoring twice with Wyatt and Keevil adding to the tally.

Guildford stayed on course by defeating St Albans 6-1 with three goals from open play by Williams and two from Jennings at short corners.

Calum Giles converted four short corners for Havant, who lost 5-4 to Surbiton, for whom Elmitt scored three times.

In the international match at Chiswick on Saturday, Great Britain held Argentina to a 1-1 draw, Howard Hoskin equalising after 28 minutes after Baccaro had given Argentina the lead.

Scores, page 34

England and Wales seek to push back competitive borders

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE search for compromise between the rugby union governing bodies in England and Wales and their restless senior clubs has led to a temporary truce: but the truce will become permanent only if the financial package at the end of it suits all the concerned parties.

Exploratory talks between representatives of the Rugby Football Union (RFU) and the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) have led to a broad consensus over the need for an Anglo-Welsh club tournament, as well as English involvement in Europe. On Saturday, the senior Welsh club secretaries — not all of them available at 24 hours' notice — were told of the proposals by the WRU, though the RFU has yet to reach the same stage.

Tomorrow, Tony Hallett, the secretary of the RFU, plans to meet Peter Wheeler, the chairman of the English first division clubs, while at the same time the competitions committees of the respective unions are exchanging views on the future playing structure, so that the countries will run on parallel lines.

That would allow a resumption of the Anglo-Welsh fixtures that meant so much to each country before league rugby came in the way. There is, of course, a dreadful irony here in that, by looking inward and establishing their own leagues, England and Wales in effect created a situation not dissimilar to that of South Africa in apartheid years, when isolation forced an interminable round of Currie Cup games against the same opponents with ultimately unhealthy effects.

Vital to the new accord is the quality of the package to be put together for sponsors and television, that will involve not only club but also international rugby. At the moment, club rugby in Great Britain, unlike its footballing counterpart, is not strong enough to sell itself in a significant way without the popular adjunct of the five nations' championship.

This involves more than just England and Wales — as England found out when attracting heavy criticism for the suggestion contained in its recent RFU Commission report that five nations' matches should be played in May.

"The whole package — internationals, touring games, club rugby — has to be sewn together and put on the market," Hallett said yesterday. This whole issue still has a long way to run."

It will be something if just two of the four home unions can reach agreement, both with their own clubs and each other. "Anglo-Welsh relations could be hugely improved by this move, for the betterment of rugby as a whole," Hallett said. If the outline plan is agreed, England's leading four clubs will go into Europe next season (as they wanted to do this season), and the next eight — six from the first division, two from the second — could find themselves involved in an Anglo-Welsh league.

The top four would play their four opposite numbers from Wales and France, with three Irish provinces, three Scottish districts or clubs (depending on the outcome of the present debate north of the border) and two Italian clubs in an enlarged version of the Heineken Cup that began this season. Twenty entrants would create four pools of five, the most successful clubs being involved in six European matches in all.

There being at the moment 12 clubs in the first division of the Heineken League, and only ten in England's Courage Clubs Championship first division, the shortfall in the Anglo-Welsh league would be made up by the leading two clubs in England's second division.

All these are clubs faced with having to find an extra £500,000 in new money by next season, in order to offer meaningful contracts to a limited squad of first-team players, and that is only year one of the new professionalism. They are looking to the revenue from new competitions to fund these contracts and they will scrutinise closely any division of the spoils.

England and Wales have been under heavy pressure from their senior clubs in respect of a broader competitive base, and the Scottish Rugby Union is in a similar situation in relation to such clubs as Stirling County, Melrose and Watsonians. Talk of a breakaway, however, remains wild while both clubs and unions need each other.

"I have never felt any conflict with the leading clubs," Hallett said. "There are a lot of different agendas around at the moment, but, even when there was a stand-off over the make-up of the RFU Commission, I felt that, if we kept in touch with the club representatives, there would be no open confrontation."

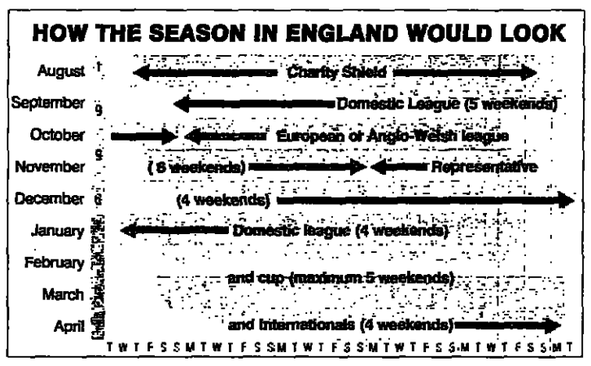
Change heads the agenda on game's domestic front

IF ENGLAND and Wales reach agreement over their competitive seasons, the shape of the game in future will embrace a graduated club system building into periods of representative rugby in the middle and at the end of each season.

The season will open with a charity shield-style game at Twickenham or Cardiff in August before five weeks of domestic club rugby. European and cross-border competition will follow from mid-October to mid-November, leaving a period free for pre-Christmas internationals or matches against touring sides.

Thereafter, domestic league and cup commitments will alternate as the five nations' championship approaches. Although the Rugby Football Union Commission expressed a wish to play that championship in May, it is more likely to be held over a longer timespan, as at present. It moves to February/March next season and could be pushed farther back still.

Thus England's playing season at the top level, that now consists of ten league weekends, four international or divisional weekends, followed by intermittent league and cup weekends, would look very different.





Lomu, in full flight for Wrexham, is courageously confronted by Hughes, of the Select XV. Photograph: Huw Evans

Lomu leaves his mark on junior rugby

Stuart Jones sees Wrexham's distinguished guest produce a display of pure diplomacy

Llyr Jones stood on a sunlit, exposed field on the outskirts of Wrexham yesterday and discovered, with a start, that he was about to realise every rugby club player's dream; or, perhaps, nightmare. In direct opposition was Jonah Lomu, the New Zealand rugby union phenomenon.

Jones, 29, a right wing from Bala, was representing the North Wales Select XV and had no idea that Wrexham's distinguished guest would pose him the most sizeable task until the teams lined up. "I thought he'd be at centre," he said, "but somebody had to mark him."

Even as a catchweight contest, the personal duel would have been ludicrously, grotesquely unfair; inevitably so. Lomu dwarfs more than a few forwards in the global game. Against a representative of junior rugby in a comparative outpost of the Principality, he appeared to be a specimen of genetic science.

He stands 6ft 4in, weighs in excess of 19st and was considered by one child, staring incredulously at the 20-year-old's awesome stature, as "a giant". Jones is ten inches shorter and about eight stone lighter. His only advantage, as he noted with a wry smile, was in age.

The first time that Lomu touched the ball, during his first appearance for any club outside his homeland, he dropped it. That provoked guffaws of laughter. The second time he was in possession, he induced a collective intake of breath as he crossed the line for the first of three tries.

Without overstretching his massive frame, set on gargantuan legs, he played his part in the light-hearted exhibition. His presence alone attracted a crowd estimated at 4,000, many of them youngsters. "Under normal circumstances," the secretary of the modest club declared, "we would be lucky to get 200."

Acting as an overt and unmistakeable decoy, he was indirectly responsible for three other tries in Wrexham's 46-18 victory. Magnanimously, he assisted an opponent wracked with cramp and during breaks in play discussed tactics with his inspired colleagues. Above all, he stamped an indelible mark on the memory of his hapless victim.

"You see him beating people on television and you think that it's a poor tackle," Jones said. "When you are up against him face-to-face, you can appreciate his strength and power. You think you have him round the legs and he just pushes you off, brushes you away.

> 'I did get close to him — but only as he went past me, mind you'

"I got close to him, but only when he was going past me. Mind you, he's gone past the best England players. We won't mention the Welsh will we?" Or the French, or the Italians, who have also recently been subjected to the muscular speed of a man courted by rugby league and the National Football League in the United States.

During his brief visit to Wales, the home of his agent, Lomu has been offered quirky proposals in keeping, perhaps, with his freakish build. He has rejected an invitation to race against Colin Jackson, the 110 metres hurdles world record holder, and to parachute from a plane. Nor will he play rugby again this year.

As he left the clubhouse, his obligation fulfilled, a jazz band was about to lead the evening's festivities. It was known as "five-a-penny", a singularly inappropriate title. As Jones professed, the guest is one in a million.

"He's a genuine superstar and it was a privilege to play against him," he enthused. "I shall remember this day for the rest of my life." The temptation to celebrate was tempered only by the prospect of having to report for work at a farm, as usual, — at 6.30 this morning.

☐ John Gallagher, the former All Black, and Mark Thomas, of Wales, were in the New York Aliens side that beat ONEX 36-36 to win the 37th New York seven-a-side tournament. The Aliens side also included Kent Bray, of Australia, Al Charron, the Canada forward named man of the tournament, and six members of the US Eagles team.

Benn sets his sights on Collins

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN DUBLIN

IT TOOK Nigel Benn only a brief reunion with the Irish to reverse his decision never to box in Ireland. Ever since serving with the Army in Northern Ireland some 12 years ago, Benn has had a fear of being a target for terrorists and had said only last week that he would never meet Steve Collins in his country. However, after receiving a rousing welcome at the Point, where Collins was defending his World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight title against Cornelius Carr, of Middlesbrough, on Saturday, Benn changed his mind.

Responding to cheers that were louder for him than those for Pierce Brosnan, the new James Bond, Benn said: "When I first came, I was wary: but the response I got was more, I think, than I get in London. I definitely want to fight Steve in Ireland."

After Collins's points victory over Carr, Frank Warren, the promoter, said that the proposed bout would be staged outdoors in Ireland in May.

Having watched Collins struggle for 12 rounds to subdue Carr, Benn must know that he can beat the Irishman. The World Boxing Council champion made all the right noises to publicise the unification bout, however.

"Steve beat Eubank twice, something I couldn't do even once," Benn said. "I'll have to dig deep. You have to match his work-rate."

Collins was far from impressive. The champion had neither the accuracy nor the power to deter an opponent who had never boxed at championship level before. As it turned out, it was Carr who carried the bout to Collins.

Benn will have noted, too, that Collins's battles have taken their toll. He is no longer the man who lost so narrowly to Mike McCallum and Reggie Johnson.

Norman's rivals fail to last pace

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN MELBOURNE

GREG NORMAN, the world No 1, did what he was supposed to do at Kingston Heath here yesterday, winning the Heineken Australian Open golf tournament to take the Stonehaven Trophy for the fourth time.

Despite his successes elsewhere, this was his first native open title since 1987 and his first victory of any kind at home since 1990; and he had to play some impressive stuff over the closing holes — and sink an outrageous putt from just off the back of the 17th green — to see off his challengers.

With a brisk northerly wind making for tricky scoring conditions, Norman improved as the afternoon wore on. Out in level par, he came home in 32, four under, with three birdies in a row from the 12th and that killer birdie three at the penultimate hole, for a round of 68 and a total of 278, ten under.

He finished two strokes clear of Peter McWhinney, his fellow Queenslander who has had such a lean, yenless year in Japan that his second place cheque for Aus $86,700 (about £43,000) meant a lot more the Aus $153,000 did to Norman. Craig Parry, another Australian, shared third place on 281 with Jean-Louis Guepy, the Frenchman from New Caledonia, who dropped shots at the last two holes.

Norman played a particularly memorable shot at the 13th. From a sandy lie under trees, he put 40 yards of slice on a seven-iron from 130 yards, getting the ball to 18 feet to move level with McWhinney, Parry and Stuart Appleby.

The latter, a strong, blond Victorian, bogeyed the 15th and 16th and finished fifth. Parry dropped a shot at the 17th and McWhinney, who went to nine under with Norman when they had birdie fours at the 14th, was bunkered at the short 15th and failed to save his par.

At the 17th, Norman closed out all opposition. From an uphill lie 212 yards from the pin, he hit a hard two-iron that finished inches over the green about 40 feet from the pin. His putt crashed into the hole and the ball disappeared.

It would have ended at least ten feet past, wouldn't it Greg, leaving a slippery downhiller for par? "It hit the back of the hole, that's all I care about," Norman said, refusing to speculate.

He was also uncharacteristically tight-lipped on other matters. Earlier, he had got himself into trouble with his comments about the course, the speed of the greens and the newly-laid turf in front of the 17th in particular. In a television interview before the final round, he said that he felt that he had to win to "get the media off my back". Asked afterward whether he had achieved that, he stonewalled. "No comment," he said.

John Daly had no need to say much either, finishing with a 73 for a total of 294, scuppered by a round of 80 on Saturday that featured a nine at the 16th. At least he won Aus $250,000 in the casino.



Norman: home winner

Hall struggling to come to terms with rejection

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN SAN ROQUE

AS DARKNESS fell on the Costa del Sol last night, Jeff Hall began to think about packing and going home. Unlike the holidaymakers who leave this part of Spain, he did not have a deep tan to take with him. It had not been a holiday, it had been a crusade. He had spent £2,000 on attempting to qualify for next year's PGA European Tour, he had missed his daughter's seventh birthday and it had ended in failure.

Hall, 38, has lived life in golf's margins for nearly 20 years. He used to travel the circuit in a coach he had converted himself. It had everything he needed from a shower to a gas cooker. "At the end I gave it to my caddie because he had no money," Hall said. "I don't know why I did that because I didn't have any money."

The most he earned in a season was £27,000, the highest he finished in the Order of Merit was 27th. "In all my years on tour I only had one sponsor," Hall said, the burr from his Bristol birthplace still recognisable. "In one year I was second in the Kenya Open, third in the Benson & Hedges, won the Jersey Open and was tied for the lead with nine holes to go with Faldo in the Lawrence Batley. And they didn't renew my contract." He laughed.

In 1981 he married a woman from Madrid and later moved to Spain. "There was no future for me in England," he said. "There is no money there and there are no jobs. I had an interview once and the job was offered to me. But when I said I wanted to play tournament golf, they refused. So I declined an offer extended to me for thirty seconds."

Leading scores 34

Then he moved on to Italy, still attempting to play on the European Tour. Now he teaches at Il Picciolo near Catania, Sicily's only 18-hole golf course. He has plans to design and build courses in Italy. "I am hopeful that something will come of those," he said. I think I have a feel for shaping bunkers and fairways. I think I would be good at it." And yet he still harbours ambitions to play tournament golf again. "I still feel I am better than I was before."

Are these ambitions based on fact or fantasy? Was Hall, one of the oldest men at the qualifying school at San Roque and Guadalmina golf courses, living in a dream, one in which he miraculously had become a better player while his 180-odd rivals had not improved?

Perhaps it was time he realised that he still was the man he was and, meanwhile, all the young players had improved.

For most people the first hole is usually where it starts. For Hall it was nearly where it finished. With minutes before Hall was due to tee off in his fourth round, his caddie had gone missing with his clubs. "I hope he comes back," Hall said laconically. "I don't want to have to drive off with a putter."

Before his round had reached halfway, Hall had given up and was prepared to talk even as he played. He took 40 to reach the turn, in part due to the desperately slow pace of 20 minutes for each hole. "It's not a success story, this, is it?" he said as he approached his 16th green and was soon to record his third double bogey of the day.

"It's more a never-give-up story. Yesterday after I had taken an eight on the last hole I was ready to throw the clubs in the basement and teach. But all my experience is wasted giving half-hour lessons.

"It is very, very hard to say I do not want to play tournament golf. It's in the blood. It is very very difficult to say that's it."

He signed for a 78 that left him 130th, 23 strokes behind the tournament leader, and then set off to stay with his brother-in-law in Marbella. His plane home to Sicily would not leave until Thursday. Could he change it? "I doubt it," he said. Was it £2,000 wasted? "Absolutely," he replied. "How could it not be?"

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Hall drives off in what proved a forlorn quest

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Cambridge defeat touring side

Students graduate to place in new structure of rugby

Cambridge University .22
Western Samoans 14

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE contribution made to rugby union by England's two senior universities has been immense. In recent years, largely concurrent with the acceptance in England of league rugby, it has been eroded and now that the sport has gone open there is a grave danger that Oxford and Cambridge Universities will gradually be marginalised.

The significance the win at Grange Road over the Western Samoans on Saturday, therefore, is hard to overestimate; never mind that the touring side were a diffident shadow of the men who have won respect in two World Cups, nor the short-term consequence that Cambridge have now drawn down upon themselves the unwonted mantle of favourites for the meeting with Oxford next month.

Results like this, and the one achieved by Oxford against Romania last season, serve to keep the Oxbridge profile high and force the Rugby Football Union (RFU, some of whose members would dispense with the traditional university influence) to assist them — remembering as well that the RFU appreciates the income generated by a full Twickenham every December, of which it takes one-third.

This season, the universities await discussions on the new club formula before they can determine the shape of their own fixture lists, but Cambridge, for one, are not standing idle. They will participate, in January, in a pilot scheme that, it is hoped, will lead to a European universities league. They will play the university sides of Dublin, Paris and Rome in a round-robin series, and Tony Rodgers, their coach, said: "We will be fighting for fixtures.

"We are looking at French sides in the autumn and hope the French Barbarians will play next season to celebrate 100 years of rugby at Grange Road." Rodgers was far from pleased when Cambridge were let down by Harlequins on November 17, leaving the students without a game for a fortnight, but the break did his charges good if the result on Saturday is anything to go by.

With Cottrell, a New Zealander, to organise their midfield, and Surridge, another, in the back row (both of whom had encountered the Samoans when playing with New Zealand Universities), Cambridge matched the Samoans tackle for tackle and outplayed them in the contest for loose ball. A match that smouldered for much of the first half burst into life in the second as realisation dawned on the students that it was there for the winning, their first success against a touring side since 1982, when they beat the Fijians.

Cambridge, fielding Adrian Spencer, the full back suspended last season because of his earlier unpaid involvement with London Crusaders, the rugby league side, and who was reinstated only the previous weekend, had watched their opponents beat Oxford 47-15 four days earlier. They struggled for lineout possession early in the game, but conceded no ground elsewhere against a strangely-lethargic team whose half backs offered little element of control or invention.

The silver lining to the Samoan cloud, however, comes from the funding that they expect from Michael Fay, the merchant banker who has invested so much money in New Zealand's America's Cup yachting programme over the past decade. He has offered assistance to the Samoan union, organising contractual agreements with players at present tempted by offers from New Zealand or rugby league.

In the meantime, Bryan Williams, the Samoa coach, is left with the problem of keeping his players mentally sharp for games that they are expected to win. "Some of them are new to touring, but that's no excuse and Cambridge played very well," the former New Zealand wing said.

Initially, Cambridge were dependent upon Ashforth's boot for their points: three penalty goals and a soaring dropped goal the reward for time spent with Dave Alred, the England kicking coach.

When Ashforth lost his touch in the second half, Cambridge turned to tries. Cottrell recovered a high kick launched by Ashforth and was back in position after some sweet handling to hint at a dummy and drive his way over. When Whitford took a short pass to erupt through the midfield and send Walne to the line, Cambridge glee knew no bounds, even though Walne caused further damage to an old ankle injury.

What followed, however, was as significant in terms of Twickenham a fortnight tomorrow. The Samoans discovered their ability to recycle ball and carried it back and forth across the field, only to founder on outstanding first-time defence; only when Vaifale slipped a tackle did the space appear for Patu's consolation score.

DETAILS

SCORERS: Cambridge University: Tries: Cottrell, Walne. Penalty goals: Ashforth (3). Dropped goal: Ashforth Western Samoans: Try: Patu Penalty goals: Burnes (2), Patu.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: *A Spencer (Priestley College and St John's), S Sexton (Dublin HS and Hughes Hall), T Whitford (The Leys and Homerton), S Cottrell (Christ's College, Christchurch and St Edmund's), *N Walne (Caerleon CS and St Catharine's), R Ashforth (Bradford GS and Peterhouse), B Ryan (Wimbledon College and Homerton), *L Mooney (St Boniface's College, Plymouth and Hughes Hall), J Evans (Emmanuel GS, Swansea and Homerton), N Holgate (Armthorpe CS and Robinson), M Hyde (St Ignatius College, Sydney and St Edmund's), *R Bramley (QEGS Wakefield and St Edmund's), C Simpson (Hills Road Vith Form College, Cambridge and Homerton), R Earnshaw (Yarm and St John's), S Surridge (Kerrigarn College, Auckland and Wolfson) Walne replaced by J Rutter (Chislehurst and Sidcup GS and St John's, 72min); D Brandt (UCS London and Downing) temporary replacement for Mooney (38-40)
* denotes a Blue

WESTERN SAMOANS: H Patu; B Lima, T Vaega, K Tuigamala, A Telea; C Burnes, M Vaea, B Reidy, O Meiaulau, P Fatialofa, L Tuala, S Lemamea, L Falaniko, S Vaifale, P Lam

Referee: G Crothers (Ireland).

Andrew enters a whole new ball game

Simon Barnes sees the first appearance of the player who was hired to take goals to Newcastle

COLORSPORT



Andrew kicks three of the 21 points that he scored on his debut for Newcastle

It was a bigger moment than he had bargained for. A bigger moment, in a way, than all those prodigious kicks that he had launched and landed to win matches before an audience of millions.

Rob Andrew, the nerveless assassin with the boy's face, placed the ball for his first kick in anger as a professional rugby union player. He is a man hired at huge expense to lead a nothing team to a glorious future. People had gathered in their tens — well, they used to gather in their ones, so at least it is a start — to watch Newcastle against mighty Harrogate, a mere friendly. Not exactly the World Cup semi-final, the last time (I do not count the third place play-off) that he had stepped out onto the big stage.

Nor was it the World Cup quarter-final, when Andrew launched The Kick that Went Round the World: at least, around the little world of rugby union. That kick, tumbling sweet and straight, fired by an innocent-looking fellow who must have had his nerves cauterised. Nothing to it chaps. Head down, follow through straight. Easy-peasy.

So, Andrew lined up his kick-off, and stroked it forward, as he has done a thousand times before, on occasions a thousand times greater. Ostensibly, at least — and he muffed it. A tyro's mistake; a jangling of nerves. Failed to make the required ten metres. Lost possession. Frightfully embarrassing.

It was a small kick for a great international stand-off half, a great boot forward for rugby-kind; and especially for Andrew. I spoke to him on the phone the day before; charming and helpful as ever, there was an uncharacteristic edginess to him. He always seemed much easier in his mind before a match in front of a full house at Twickenham. Odd, that.

Or not so odd. We, the watchers, know Andrew the rugby player, the Superman of the international game; but, until now, Andrew has had a get-out clause. He could go back into the telephone kiosk, discard the cape and the tights, and emerge suited and tied as Mr Robert Andrew, mild-mannered surveyor; a man doing well in another world entirely.

That is the way it was. It is not that rugby union did not matter to its players; the point is that rugby union was never quite everything. A journeyman footballer feels the breath of the poorhouse with every twanging hamstring, with every nightmare game. Rugby union players have always been spared that.

No worries about the poorhouse for Andrew; but he is a full-time rugby player now. He can never again go back to the telephone kiosk. He is stuck in the cape for ever. In a former life, it was his job to shake off Saturday's triumphs and disasters in time for Monday morning. Now, the cares of last Saturday — and next Saturday — shape his week, his life. On Saturday, Andrew felt the closing of the door of sport's prison house.

An embarrassing moment, that muffed kick, but no worse than that. After a few moments, he landed an easy penalty goal, a generous nerve-settler, and found his rhythm and his accuracy. Kicked like a mule. Oh, and passed, too, every now and then.

It was a happy massacre — 51-5, six tries, Andrew landing eight of nine place kicks and a dropped goal, 21 points in all. He directed play with steepling bombs and with long, angled ground-balls that squirmed and wriggled beyond flapping hands into touch.

Afterwards, Andrew came to the press room just like a football manager, except that he courteously turned up in his kit, to save us hanging about. He dodged questions about the budget he gets from Sir John Hall, his master, and dodged more questions about a return to international rugby.

There was a sense of awkwardness in Andrew and in my colleagues. Sorry, Rob, but the gloves are off now, the game has changed. We have to ask these questions. Sorry, gentlemen, but my easy frankness is a thing of the past. I see the headlines behind the questions; that is *my* job. Quite a job it is, too. Newcastle have but a single win in the Courage Clubs Championship thus far, and are bottom of the second division. Avoiding relegation is the immediate target. The next league game comes just after Christmas, but regulations, designed for an amateur game, will keep Andrew out of league matches until February 10.

> 'A small kick for a great stand-off half, a great boot forward for rugby-kind'

Quite a job; and money, even limitless money, will take you only part of the way. You must also create a tradition; build a land of heroes. I wonder if, this morning, Andrew will feel a pang of nostalgia for the telephone kiosk.

SCORERS: Newcastle: Tries: Childs, Wilkinson (2), Popplewell, Wilson, Malarkey, Cornwallace; Andrew (6) Penalty goals: Andrew (7) Dropped goal: Andrew Harrogate: Try: Caldwell
NEWCASTLE: I McClelland; M Wilson, R Wilkinson, J Fletcher, G Childs; R Andrew, G Robson; N Popplewell, A Hetherington, P VanzandVliet, F Mitchell, R Metcalfe, N Frankland, S Cassidy, D Holder. Popplewell replaced by B Adlington (52min); Metcalfe replaced by A Malarkey (61).
HARROGATE: I Hassall; S Hockey, M Brain, A Caldwell, A Taylor; R Zoing, M Wood; J Field, R Whyley, A Brown, P Taylor, M Ruthen, A Pinde, D Wheat, J Hopkinson Zoing replaced by D Clapperson (70). Hopkinson replaced by R Nolan (74)
Referee: P Dickens (East Midlands).

London victims of panto farce

North 18
London 9

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE pantomime season arrived early at College Grove, with Brian Moore, the Baron Hardup to Tim Stimpson's Prince Charming, one of the few at Wakefield on Saturday to press his international claims in an encounter light in entertainment and heavy on farce.

A dog's week for the former England pitbull saw Moore, the London captain, revelling in the villain role. A needless shove on Baldwin was followed by a warning for stamping. Cue, booing and hissing.

Stimpson, a local Wakefield boy making good, was a tailor-made hero. Rangy and long-striding, all it needed was a tally-ho slap on the thigh to complete the image before he set off on one of his customary counter-attacking runs, which invariably scattered London defenders and set up the decisive try by Will Greenwood to turn the tide of pressure in the second half.

As an attacking full back, which is presumably what England are after, Stimpson's powerful running and raking kicks highlighted the qualities that Jon Callard lacked against South Africa. In adversity at West Hartlepool, Stimpson continues to shine, and after a call-up to an enlarged England squad for the game against Western Samoa on December 16, his latest performance should provoke earnest head-scratching among management.



Moore: role of villain

Given Andy Gomarsall's discomforting shoulder injury and Austin Healey's hamstrung understanding with Rob Liley at half back for the North, it was difficult to judge two scrum halves in the vanguard behind Kyran Bracken, other than that both are willing ball players with the necessary vision, but who require more time to ripen.

With Pears, Leonard, Dallaglio and O'Leary — the missing quartet return for London's game with the Western Samoans on Wednesday — the visitors might have done more than stuff the ball up their jerseys to counteract the adventure of the North.

Diprose was the one spark in the London pack. Their threequarters were leaden and the handling shoddy, a fate that sometimes befell the North, whose running rugby was too often without the ball.

Their initial dynamism, in response to Gregory's accurate place-kicking for London, owed much to the Sale backbone in the forwards, in harness with the tireless Arnold. It was the Newcastle player's surging run that created the position for Mallinder to stroll over.

As well as the North tackled, the second period was a mess that they should never have got into, until Stimpson, this time doing his Dick Whittington impression, set off into the heart of London, for Greenwood to do the honours.

SCORERS: North: Tries: Mallinder, W Greenwood Conversion: Liley. Penalty goals: Liley (2). London: Penalty goals: Gregory (3).
NORTH: T Stimpson (West Hartlepool); J Naylor (Orrell), W Greenwood (Harlequins), P Johnson (Orrell), J Mallinder (Sale), R Liley (Sale), A Healey (Orrell) P Winstanley (Orrell), S Diamond (Sale), M Shelley (West Hartlepool), A Arnold (Newcastle), J Fowler (Sale), M Greenwood (Wasps), N Ashurst (Sale), C Vyvyan (Sale). Winstanley replaced by G Baldwin (Wakefield, 1min); Vyvyan replaced by P Stewart (Wakefield, 48).
LONDON: A Tunningley (Saracens); M Griffiths (Wasps), N Greenstock (Wasps), P Mensah (Harlequins), S Rolser (Wasps); G Gregory (Wasps), A Gomarsall (Wasps); S Brown (Harlequins), B Moore (Harlequins), I Dunston (Wasps), M White (Wasps), A Snow (Harlequins), M Watson (Harlequins), R Jenkins (Harlequins), A Diprose (Saracens).
Referee: A Spreadbury (Somerset).

Greening stakes England claim

South West..... 11
Midlands..... 16

BY BRYAN STILES

JACK ROWELL, the England manager and head coach, went window-shopping in Gloucester on Saturday and liked what he saw. This divisional championship match displayed the kind of precocious talent that he could be using in the national team in the not-too-distant future.

Two South West players in particular who caught his eye were Phil Greening, the Gloucester hooker, and Alex King, the Bristol University and Rosslyn Park stand-off half. Greening had been earmarked earlier in the season as a future England player, but it was the first time that Rowell had seen him play and he was impressed. The burly hooker did his chores well in the scrum, but he clearly liked to roam the open spaces, showing his ability to punch holes in defences and create try-scoring opportunities.

It was his touchline frolic in after 21 minutes that fashioned the opening for Bruce Fenley, his scrum half, to dart over in the corner for the South West's only try.

King, an England Under-21 player, was, according to Rowell, "outstanding — a neat player who showed excellent touches". Several times, King scampered through tight defensive shields, making light of the appalling conditions as heavy rain made the surface treacherous and ball-handling a lottery. He landed a penalty goal and a dropped goal as his confidence grew.

He needs more weight in his kicking, greater bulk to withstand the inevitable buffeting and much more experience, but he showed the potential that England seek. Players like King and Greening could find themselves in the senior set-up much quicker than they imagine if Rowell's musings turn into reality. As ever, he is looking for a way forward for the England team and may take a leaf out of the French manual. He is impressed with the way that France turned to youth in their recent matches with the All Blacks and is keen to follow suit.

King and Greening are 20, with too much yet to learn before they get the call, but Rowell has certainly opened the door for them.

He also described the championship as a "wonderful shop window" for them to display their skills, clearly indicating that he is against the proposal by the Rugby Football Union Commission to scrap the tournament.



Rowell: impressed

This was the second victory for Midlands and they will meet North in defence of their title a week on Saturday. Midlands led 10-8 at the interval with tries by Pountney and Skingsley, but it was a match that either side could have won, with the South West failing to capitalise on three try-scoring chances near the end.

SCORERS: South West: Try: Fenley. Dropped goal: King. Penalty goal: King. Midlands: Tries: Pountney, Skingsley. Penalty goals: Quantrill (2)
SOUTH WEST: P Hull (Bristol, captain); P Holford (Gloucester), S Enoch (Pontypridd), M Denney (Bristol), J Sleightholme (Bath); A King (Rosslyn Park), B Fenley (Gloucester); K Yates (Bath), P Greening (Gloucester), D Crompton (Bath), P Stanville (Gloucester), G Archer (Bristol), C Yandell (Saracens), J Pearson (Bristol), E Rollitt (Bristol) Yandell replaced by R Fidler (Gloucester, 41min).
MIDLANDS: J Quantrill (Rugby Lions), R Subbiani (Bedford), A Kerr (Moseley), B Whetstone (Bedford), H Thornaycroft (Northampton); P Grayson (Northampton, captain), J Farr (Winnington Park), M Volland (Northampton), T Beddow (Northampton), N Webber (Moseley), I Skingsley (Bedford), D Grewcock (Coventry), R West (Gloucester), A Pountney (Northampton), G Seely (Northampton)
Referee: J Pearson (Durham).

Grey Cardiff caught off guard

Cardiff..... 18
Newport..... 22

BY GERALD DAVIES

CARDIFF may have allowed the European Cup to take their eye off their domestic aspirations. Having travelled to play Bègles last Tuesday, and awaiting the visit of Ulster tomorrow, Cardiff dropped their guard and allowed Newport their second successive Heineken League victory at the Arms Park.

The visitors, who are gradually recovering their reputation after lean recent years, took the greatest delight in knocking Cardiff off their pedestal. Their jubilation at the final whistle made that clear.

They might, however, have cried in their beer when they reflected on the dismal quality of the rugby. Newport are a makeshift team and are only slowly getting a familiar squad together, quite a few of whom were once with Cardiff, and have yet to gain a proper momentum. They are a spirited lot, guided by Gareth Rees, who benefits largely from Moseley's gifts of the ball from the lineout.

Cardiff, on the other hand, have talented players in every position and are the envy of many clubs. They have also campaigned together for quite a while and have the potential to add colour to the humdrum season in a way that few clubs can. Yet they remain a grey team, surprisingly ordinary in the many things that they do. Tactics are geared, by and large, to the battering ram, where the Lewises, Andrew and Emyr, are constantly to the fore.

There is a longing for relief and variety. Ring sometimes supplies it and Rayer, too, now that he is back from injury, but there was little hope here. Ring was taken off with a suspected broken ankle and it was too late for Rayer, who replaced him, to do much about the trend.

Cardiff had most of the advantage but rarely used it to good effect, and, when they looked as if they might, they committed basic errors and lost the ball. Newport, for the most part, kept plugging away. Honest endeavour rather than smooth technique is their prominent quality.

Hewlett is a huge asset at scrum half. It was his deft, if speculative, kick to the corner that created the game's only try, in the second minute. His grubber kick dropped short of the line, Booth tried casually to put it into touch and failed. Hewlett was there again to pick it up and pass inside to Thomas for a try, that Rees converted from near the touchline.

From then on, the game was dominated by penalty goals. Rees kicked three in the first half to Chris John's two.

After John had kicked another after the interval, the home side twice made inroads into Newport's half only to make vital handling errors upon which the visitors capitalised. First, Emyr Lewis ran deep into Newport territory and lost the ball, and then Hall did much the same. On each occasion, the home team took advantage to counter-attack and, when stopped, Cardiff were penalised. Rees added the points. Three more penalty goals by John closed the gap but failed to raise the spirits.

SCORERS: Cardiff: Penalty goals: John (6). Newport: Try: Thomas. Conversion: G Rees. Penalty goals: G Rees (5).
CARDIFF: C John; N Walker, S John, M Hall, S Hill; M Ring, A Booth, A Lewis, P Young, M Griffiths, O Williams, J Wakeford, K Stewart, C Mills, E Lewis. Ring replaced M Rayer (69min)
NEWPORT: S Davies; R Rees, D Hughes, D Edwards, O Thomas; G Rees, J Hewlett, S Duggan, A Peacock, S Cronk, D Gray, N Jones, K Moseley, M Workman, R Goodey. Thomas replaced by A Palfrey (69). Goodey replaced by J Partri (72).
Referee: D Davies (Llanbradach).

Pontypridd's plea will let Rowley play

PONTYPRIDD, who play Leinster in a Heineken Cup pool C match at Lansdowne Road on December 6, may have Mark Rowley, the international lock, available despite his dismissal — along with that of James Alvis, the prop — in the match against Treorchy on Saturday. If Pontypridd decide tomorrow to appeal against the sendings-off, Prosser and Alvis will be able to continue playing until their hearing in mid-December.

Cardiff have an injury crisis as they prepare to take on Ulster in their final pool match at the Arms Park tomorrow. Mark Ring has been ruled out with an ankle injury and there are doubts about Simon Hill, Adrian Davies and Derwyn Jones, who face fitness tests today.

Philippe Sella may have played his last international for France. Sella, 33, who has represented his country 111 times — a world record — said yesterday that he wants to concentrate on his business and that his mind is 95 per cent made up about retiring.

Saverimutto saves Exiles' face

Irish Exiles 28
Connacht 22

BY PETER BILLS

"AWFUL, wasn't it?" beamed a member of the Ireland selection panel after a muddling, mediocre inter-provincial match at Sunbury on Saturday. "Have a drink, I'd say you'd need one after that."

Spoken with disarming, lovely honesty; because, for the most part, it was a hugely disappointing contest, as depressing at times as the grim grey afternoon. Just what Murray Kidd, of New Zealand, the new Ireland national coach, made of it all, one can but speculate, but perhaps the fact that he seemed to have departed the London Irish ground for Heathrow and an early flight back to Ireland before anyone could turn round provided some clue.

Kidd would have been bewildered by the sight of Exiles establishing a handsome 28-12 lead with half an hour remaining and very nearly losing. Indeed, had Rogers, the Connacht flanker, not lost possession a yard from the Exile's line or Mulcahy not thrown in crooked to a lineout in an almost similarly propitious attacking position, Connacht might have earned their first win over Exiles in inter-provincial rugby. As it was, Exiles held on for victory by a goal, three tries and two penalty goals to a goal and five penalty goals.

However, there were mitigating factors. Exiles squeezed in only their second training session on Friday night and then mostly without their coach and a key player who were delayed by transport problems. Is this really a professional game? Consequently, only in patches did Exiles demonstrate their potential, especially Staples, who ran strongly from the back for his two tries within three minutes either side of half-time.

Henderson had scored in the first minute with a powerful run, so Exiles' opening to each half was marvellous. It was what happened thereafter that left so much to be desired. Neither side eliminated the simple errors that bedevilled all good intentions and, for the most part, second-phase ball was delivered so slowly that creativity behind the scrum was desperately short.

Saverimutto, the new international scrum half, was the only player to rise above the mediocre. His quick thinking with tap penalties made two tries and he launched the counter-attack from deep that set up Staples's second try. Elwood made Mannion's try for Connacht after 66 minutes with a neat, scuttling run down the blind side, but his kicking was erratic, an aimlessly directed clearance kick giving Exiles the ball from which Staples scored after half-time. He also landed only five of his nine penalty goal attempts and missed a dropped goal.

Full results 34

SCORERS: Irish Exiles: Tries: Staples (2), Henderson. Halpin Conversion: Corcoran. Penalty goals: Corcoran (2). Connacht: Try: Mannion. Conversion: Elwood. Penalty goals: Elwood (5).
IRISH EXILES: J Staples (Harlequins, captain), M Corcoran (London Irish), R Henderson (London Irish), P Flood (London Irish), S Geoghegan (Bath), N Malone (Lisnagarvey), C Saverimutto (Sale); N Donovan (Clontarf), D Addleton (Coventry), G Halpin (London Irish), J Green (Saracens), J Etheridge (Northampton), S Smith (Rugby), D O'Grady (Sale), D Adams (Racing Club de France).
CONNACHT: A White (Corinthians), M Devine (Bucaneers), R Corrigan (Lansdowne), B Carey (UCD), M O'Reilly (Old Belvedere); E Elwood (Lansdowne), D Raddan (Old Crescent); D Kavanagh (Blackrock), W Mulcahy (Shannes), C Shanley (DLSP), R Rogers (Blackrock), G Heaslip (Galwegians), J O'Callaghan (Wanderers), K Devlin (St Mary's, captain), N Mannion (Bucaneers)
Referee: L Mayne (Munster).

Brooks turns corner with double

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent


JULIAN HERBERT

Gallagher (left) receives hearty congratulations from Graham Bradley after his victory on Couldnt Be Better

FOR Nick Faldo, the turning point arguably came when he met David Leadbetter, the golf professionals' mentor. For Brian Lara the breakthrough was achieved with his record test innings of 375 against England in Antigua. For Charlie Brooks the big time arrived during a remarkable quarter of an hour at Newbury and Newcastle on Saturday.

"Yes, I think it was a watershed for our yard," the Upper Lambourn trainer said yesterday, as he reflected on the remarkable double achieved by Couldnt Be Better in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup and Padre Mio in the Fighting Fifth Hurdle.

It is not that long since Brooks, 32, was struggling to the extent that his stables were up for sale and he was thinking of scaling down his training interests. Then 18 months ago Andrew Cohen, the Betterware boss and racehorse owner, became Brooks's business partner and invested around £2 million in new gallops, schooling grounds, an indoor swimming pool and extra boxes at Uplands.

"Basically, without Andrew I would have gone bankrupt and I would not be here without him," Brooks readily admitted. "But now the idea is to bring the yard into the next century. His attitude is very much that there will be large and small yards in the future, but there won't be middle-sized yards, and we had to go one way or the other.

"We are building an extra 18 boxes around the indoor swimming pool and the plan is for us to try to become a big yard. But I have got to deliver the goods." Hence the importance of Saturday.

The elation on the face of Brooks after Couldnt Be Better sluiced through the Newbury mud to win the Hennessy lit up the gloom nearly as effectively as his vivid, buttercup yellow mackintosh. And then, with the post-race celebrations still continuing, Padre Mio completed the most memorable day of his seven-year training career.

"We really needed to do something like that, and it was certainly my biggest day as a trainer. In my mind, Padre Mio was as important as Couldnt Be Better because we have always told everyone what a good horse he was. We have even said that he was possibly the best horse in the yard. While that may not be correct, it was important to us to win a big race with him."

Brooks must now decide whether to continue hurdling with Padre Mio or opt for novice chasing. "He's such a good horse. If he is going to end up fourth in the Champion Hurdle I would sooner send him chasing so he can run in the Arkle. I don't want him to be a bit player in one field when he could be a major player in another."

Couldnt Be Better could be in action again next Saturday in the Rehearsal Chase at Chepstow, where Master Oats, the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, and Bradbury Star are scheduled to be in opposition.

Brooks reported: "He lost only nine kilos in Saturday's race and my feelings are to kick on with the horse. He has had broken blood vessels in the past and that is more likely to happen in the spring than in the autumn. Master Oats might frighten everybody away. If it is a small field and the race cuts up we might regret it if we didn't enter."

Brooks is also toying with the idea of taking both Couldnt Be Better and Padre Mio to Cagnes-Sur-Mer in southern France at Christmas time.

Couldnt Be Better was ridden to perfection by Dean Gallagher, one of the most underrated jump jockeys in the weighing room, who said: "I love this horse to bits and at the start of the season I remember looking at him and saying this is the Hennessy winner."

With Richard Dunwoody set to ride Sound Man in the Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown on Saturday when Viking Flagship, the Queen Mother Champion Chase winner, is due to reappear, Kim Bailey faces the task of finding another jockey to ride Master Oats at Chepstow.

David Nicholson, the trainer of Viking Flagship, looks set to be strongly represented at the big Sandown meeting with Hill Of Tullow, Anzum, Certainly Strong and Putty Road all pencilled in to run.

TV Action Replay, page 24
Results, page 34

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Northern Saddler
(1.20 Worcester)
Next best: Pete The Parson
(2.50 Worcester)

Hard sell needed to arrest apathy of city dwellers

RICHARD EVANS



Racing commentary

As tempting as it must have been to give the green light to an all-weather track with floodlighting at Kempton Park, the decision last week by United Racecourses (UR) to shelve the grandiose £30 million scheme was commercially inevitable. However, the wise conclusion leaves two problems which will be far harder to resolve.

In the short term, what is to be done with Kempton? The racecourse in no-man's-land at Sunbury has no soul or character, little appeal and is greyer than the *Spitting Image* puppet of the Prime Minister. The average attendance this year is down by a worrying six per cent compared with 12 months ago. The crowds for the Flat this summer averaged 4,700 compared to more than 6,000 at the start of the 1990s — and the jumping picture hardly looks any healthier.

The facilities are to be refurbished soon. That may help. So would cutting the still exorbitant bar prices and improving the standard and range of food. As welcome as those changes would prove, they will not begin to address the real problem confronting Kempton or Sandown and Epsom, the other two courses owned by UR.

The sad truth is that despite having a population of around 12 million on the doorstep, racing appears to be of little interest to the vast majority of Londoners. The extent of the apathy became apparent after Edward Gillespie and his UR colleagues carried out extensive research into this year's Derby. To their surprise, they discovered around 80 per cent of the spectators came from outside London and the home counties. Amazingly, it would appear there is a higher proportion of people living in the South East prepared to go to Cheltenham rather than Epsom.

In fairness to the UR courses, the lack of interest displayed by London's population is not confined to the capital. Other racecourses sited near cities are also feeling the pinch. At Edinburgh, the average attendance last year was 1,330 for the Flat and 1,083 for jumps meetings. Haydock's average crowd this summer slumped by 1,000, while the average Flat attendance at Warwick — sited close enough to Birmingham — dipped below 3,000 for the first time in recent years.

So is racing just a turn-off for city dwellers? I do not believe so. After all, the splendidly run York course attracts average crowds touching 14,000. Instead, in too many instances, I fear the dwindling attendances are the direct result of years of neglect by racecourses.

All too often, clerks of the courses with a military bearing gave the impression "here's the racing and you're jolly lucky to get it" without doing anything to advertise what was on offer and encourage people to attend. They just assumed crowds would arrive because they were staging racing.

The task facing Kempton, Sandown and Epsom is to sell the thrill of racing to London. At the moment the sport does not even prick the capital's consciousness. United Racecourses, which will soon appoint a new sales and marketing chief, has made a start by contacting universities and colleges to offer special deals for students to come racing.

That idea has to be extended to companies, businesses, pubs and clubs throughout London, with offers, prizes, competitions and deals, all of which pull people through the turnstiles. If football has managed to attract back the family, racing should be able to retrieve the crowds.

KELSO

THUNDERER
12.30 WELSH MILL (nap)
1.00 Penny A Day
1.30 Island Chief
2.00 Sireric
2.30 Jodami
3.00 Eurotwist
3.30 Merry Rose

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

12.30 JOHN HOGG NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £2,696: 2m 110yd) (12 runners)
1 56-14 PEGGY GORDON 51 (BF,F) (F Flynn, R Madden) Mrs D Thomson 4-11-2 L O'Hara 80
2 BALLYRAG 447F (J Parsons) R Fahey 4-11-0 L Wyer –
3 5-0 CHIPPED OUT 17 (BF) (Domino Racing) D Todhunter 5-11-0 R Garritty 90
4 0- COLONEL IN CHIEF 238 (R Ogden) F Murphy 5-11-0 P Carberry 82
5 6/04626- FRIENDLY KNIGHT 241F (G Johnston) J Haldane 5-11-0 B Harding 93
6 U0 MY HANDY MAN 7 (J Stephenson) R Allan 4-11-0 S Melrose (7) –
7 46- OVALWORLD 230 (C Whillans) D Whillans 4-11-0 B Harding (3) 71
8 00-56 PERSUASIVE TALENT 24 (Exors of Mr R Lamb) D Lamb 4-11-0 A Manners (7) 80
9 SILVER PEARL 395F (E Scarth) W Reed 4-11-0 D Bridgwater –
10 0/4 WELSH MILL 13 (D Hall) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-0 P Niven [99]
11 ZUBOON 402F (J O'Neill) J J O'Neill 4-11-0 M Dwyer –
12 2324-42 EMERALD CHARM 24 (Mrs P Boynton) J Charlton 7-10-9 B Storey 91

BETTING: 6-4 Welsh Mill, 7-2 Zuboon, 6-1 Colonel In Chief, Emerald Charm, 8-1 Friendly Knight, 10-1 Silver Pearl, 12-1 My Handy Man, 14-1 others.

1994: SWEET MIGNONETTE 6-11-2 P Niven (11-10 fav) Mrs M Reveley 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

PEGGY GORDON beat Nijway 9l in maiden hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 1f 110yd, firm) on penultimate start. CHIPPED OUT 23l 5th to Callisoe Bay in novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good). FRIENDLY KNIGHT best recent effort 4l 2nd to Sudden Spin in selling hurdle at Catterick (2m, soft). OVALWORLD 27½l 6th to Hot Punch in claiming hurdle here (2m 2f, good to firm). WELSH MILL 9½l 4th of 13 to Turnpole in novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good). ZUBOON best recent effort on Flat short head 2nd to Jack Button in handicap at Newmarket (2m, good). 1994. EMERALD CHARM 6l 2nd to George Ashford in novice hurdle at Hexham (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) with PERSUASIVE TALENT (7lb worse off) 35l 6th.
Selection: WELSH MILL (nap)

1.00 JOHN HOGG NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £2,682: 2m 110yd) (11 runners)
1 1 PENNY A DAY 17 (D,G) (J Good) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-7 P Niven [99]
2 CYMBALO 133F (M Sawers) J Goldie 4-11-0 F Leahy (3) –
3 0- DOMINO NIGHT 219 (R Haggas) G Richards 5-11-0 B Harding (3) –
4 0 HENRY HOOLET 16 (Matchsemi) P Monteith 6-11-0 G Cahill (7) –
5 JABAROOT 172F (J Slattery) D Nolan 4-11-0 L Wyer –
6 00-0 SHREWD THOUGHT 17 (R Green) C Parker 4-11-0 B Storey –
7 5046/F3- SUPREME SOVIET 181 (A Gilchrist) A Whillans 5-11-0 M Moloney 82
8 0/PF0P- THOMAS RAND 289 (N Riddell) M Dods 6-11-0 N Smith –
9 8 TRUE SCOT 17 (Panther Racing Ltd) P Cheesbrough 5-11-0 R Supple 82
10 YOUNG STEVEN 179F (A Thurgood) W Kemp 4-11-0 S McDougall –
11 00-5 MORE CHAMPAGNE 66 (Tillymie Cork Poppers) Mrs D Thomson 5-10-9 L O'Hara 77

BETTING: 4-6 Penny A Day, 7-1 True Scot, Domino Night, 10-1 Supreme Soviet, Jabaroot, 12-1 More Champagne, 14-1 others

1994: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS

PENNY A DAY beat Lansborough 2½l in 14-runner maiden hurdle at Ayr (2m, good) with TRUE SCOT (7lb better off) 21½l 6th and SHREWD THOUGHT (7lb better off) 15l 7th. DOMINO NIGHT 20l 7th of 12 to Claverhouse in National Hunt Flat race at Ayr (2m, good). JABAROOT best recent effort on Flat beat Brandon Court head in 8 runner handicap at Chester (1m 4f 66yd, good to firm) 1994. SUPREME SOVIET 3l 3rd of 10 to Sharp Sensation in novice hurdle at Hexham (2m, good to firm). YOUNG STEVEN best recent effort on Flat 20l 7th of 8 to Diaghilef in maiden at Newcastle (1m 2f, good to soft). MORE CHAMPAGNE 23l 7th of 19 to Lord Dorcet in novice hurdle over course and distance (good).
Selection: PENNY A DAY

1.30 JACK BRITTON MEMORIAL NOVICES CHASE
(£4,319: 3m 1f) (8 runners)
1 231214 BANNTOWN BILL 13 (V,D,F,G,S) (E Scarth) M Pipe 6-12-0 D Bridgwater 74
2 33122-1 ISLAND CHIEF 16 (D,G,S) (G Dilger) P Beaumont 6-11-8 R Supple [99]
3 00/P033- CALL THE SHOTS 311 (J Wade) J Wade 6-11-2 K Jones 84
4 5422-34 PAGLIACCIO 56 (A Stewart) M Hammond 7-11-2 P Niven –
5 4/3P2 ROCKET RUN 18 (F,G,S) (P Russell) Miss L Russell 7-11-2 A Thornton 93
6 P4-4F3F WOLFSVILLE 18 (Exors of Mr R Lamb) D Lamb 7-11-2 A Manners –
7 000-553 ALICHARGER 44 (A Fletcher) Mrs D Thomson 5-11-0 L O'Hara 50
8 440-P03 SEEKING GOLD 18 (Gary) J Barclay 6-10-11 B Storey 88

BETTING: 4-5 Island Chief, 5-1 Rocket Run, 6-1 Banntown Bill, Pagliaccio, 8-1 Call The Shots, 10-1 others.

1994. ALI'S ALIBI 7-11-9 P Niven (7-4 fav) Mrs M Reveley 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

BANNTOWN BILL beat Trust Deed short head in novice chase at Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, firm) on penultimate start. ISLAND CHIEF beat Earlymorning Light 14l in novice chase at Ayr (3m 1f, good). CALL THE SHOTS 14l 3rd of 18 to Crank Shaft in novice chase at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, soft). PAGLIACCIO 35½l 4th to Hit The Canvas in handicap hurdle here (2m 6f 110yd, firm). ROCKET RUN 15l 2nd to Addington Boy in novice chase over course and distance (good) with SEEKING GOLD 5l 3rd and WOLFSVILLE fell 2nd. ALICHARGER 26½l 5th of 10 to Hurricane Andrew in novice chase at Hexham (3m 1f, good to firm).
Selection: ISLAND CHIEF

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Mrs M Reveley	40	126	31.7	P Niven	47	122	38.5
G Richards	29	114	25.4	M Moloney	14	61	23.0
G Moore	11	52	21.2	Mrs A Farrell	3	15	20.0
M Hammond	15	81	18.5	A Thornton	8	43	18.6
J Johnson	10	55	18.2	B Storey	25	145	17.2
P Monteith	19	115	16.5	J Callaghan	10	60	16.7

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JUMP LEADERS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Pqs more rds	Level stakes
M Pipe	71	42	25	2	-12.84
P Hobbs	42	21	19	9	+9.71
N Twiston-Davies	35	29	17	1	-6.07
G Richards	33	19	6	1	+39.51

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing mounts	Level stakes
A P McCoy	74	55	37	1	+38.06
D Bridgwater	59	40	26	4	-30.87
P Niven	36	20	13	1	-11.97
A Dobbin	31	19	16	1	+27.41

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.00 E SCARTH & SON HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,422: 2m 6f 110yd) (12 runners)
1 0/3131F- NORTHANTS 261 (G,S) (C Rennison) W Storey 9-12-0 P Carberry 90
2 3513/1-0 DISSINGTON DENE 23 (F,S) (D & W Wyllie) J Norton 6-11-7 W Fry 83
3 124142- VILLAGE REINDEER 210 (CD,F,G,S) (J Chester) P Calver 8-11-3 L Wyer 93
4 15P/10-0 DIG DEEPER 17 (CD,G,S) (I Dalgleish) J J O'Neill 8-11-1 P Niven 92
5 12603-8 TRUMP 17 (G,S) (R Green) C Parker 6-11-0 D Parker (3) [99]
6 10P0/P0 SHANNON GLEN 30 (B,F,S) (M Smith) M Smith 9-10-13 G Harker –
7 0321- SIRERIC 237 (S) (C Bell) S Bell 5-10-9 N Smith 94
8 13232-5 GREAT EASEBY 17 (S) (D Batey) W Storey 5-10-7 J Supple (3) 96
9 /2F0P/3 TALLYWAGGER 21 (F,G) (J Featherstone) G Moore 8-10-7 J Callaghan 97
10 3100-34 NORTHUMBRIAN KING 17 (F,G,S) (Mrs K Walton) Mrs K Walton 9-10-6 Mr C Bonner (3) 98
11 10R13-0 NICHOLAS PLANT 16 (S) (Mrs M Paterson) J Goldie 6-10-5 F Leahy (3) 95
12 13/U00-F CARNETTO 18 (C,G,S) (Mrs R Brewis) R Brewis 8-10-1 G Lee (3) 90

BETTING: 9-2 Sireric, 6-1 Tallywagger, Village Reindeer, 7-1 Northants, Northumbrian King, 8-1 others.

1994: MAJOR BELL 6-11-3 M Moloney (9-2) A Whillans 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

NORTHANTS beat Coonlorus 25l in novice chase at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to soft) on penultimate start. DISSINGTON DENE beat Call My Guest 3½l in novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm). VILLAGE REINDEER beat Dockmaster 14l in handicap hurdle over course and distance (good) with NORTHUMBRIAN KING (14lb better off) 22l 8th and CARNETTO (7lb better off) 3l 9th. DIG DEEPER beat Loch Scavaig 3½l in handicap hurdle at Perth (3m 110yd, good). SIRERIC beat Father O'Brien 15l in novice hurdle at Hexham (3m, heavy). GREAT EASEBY 8l 2nd to Glendalane Lady in handicap hurdle at Cartmel (3m 2f, good to soft). TALLYWAGGER 4¾l 3rd to Adrien in handicap hurdle at Carlisle (3m 110yd, good to firm).
Selection: DISSINGTON DENE

2.30 HINCHLIFFE CHAMPION CHASE (Handicap: £10,650: 3m 4f) (6 runners)
1 2/U210-2 JODAMI 16 (C,F,G,S) (J Yeadon) P Beaumont 10-11-10 M Dwyer [99]
2 4643-35 OVER THE DEEL 9 (CD,F,G,S) (G Tobitt) J Johnson 9-10-0 D Bridgwater 84
3 624-440 BOARDING SCHOOL 21 (F,G,S) (R Green) C Parker 8-10-0 B Storey 57
4 0361-R3 PINK GIN 2 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs M Francis) M Hammond 8-10-0 Mr C Bonner (3) 84
5 4P145-0 SNOOK POINT 2 (G) (I Jordon) D Lamb 8-10-0 A Manners (7) 50
6 F42/226- GUNMETAL BOY 184 (C,F,G,S) (P Russell) Miss L Russell 11-10-0 G Lee (3) 50

Long handicap: Over The Deel 8-6, Boarding School 7-5, Pink Gin 7-5, Snook Point 6-6, Gunmetal Boy 5-8

BETTING: 1-5 Jodami, 11-2 Over The Deel, 16-1 Boarding School, 20-1 Pink Gin, 100-1 others.

1994: MORGANS HARBOUR 8-10-1 P Niven (3-1) Mrs M Reveley 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

JODAMI 7l 2nd of 7 to One Man in handicap chase at Ayr (3m 1f, good) OVER THE DEEL 19l 5th of 10 to Young Hustler in handicap chase at Aintree (3m 3f, good to firm) BOARDING SCHOOL 23¼l 4th of 6 to Romany Creek in handicap chase at Carlisle (3m, good to firm). PINK GIN best recent effort beat BOARDING SCHOOL (4lb better off) neck in 9-runner handicap chase here (3m 1f, firm) and SNOOK POINT (9lb worse off) 20l.
Selection: JODAMI

3.00 FAMOUS GROUSE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,584: 2m 2f) (6 runners)
1 F/3P64-0 FRICKLEY 16 (G,S) (R Ogden) F Murphy 9-12-0 P Carberry 97
2 265111- LORD DORCET 201 (C,F,G) (J Hogg) J Charlton 5-11-8 B Storey 90
3 P22111 DANCING DOVE 18 (CD,F,G) (Dr K Fraser) G Richards 7-11-7 B Harding (3) 96
4 4/1180-5 EUROTWIST 18 (G,S) (R Gomersall) S Kettlewell 6-11-4 G Lee (3) 94
5 42U-340 WEAVER GEORGE 18 (V,F,G) (Regent Decorators Ltd) J Hellens 5-10-10 P Niven [99]
6 201F-00 JYMJAM JOHNNY 23 (S) (A Schavenen) J J O'Neill 6-10-5 M Dwyer 91

BETTING: 6-4 Dancing Dove, 5-2 Lord Dorcet, 5-1 Eurotwist, Frickley, 8-1 Weaver George, 12-1 Jymjam Johnny.

1994: HOME COUNTIES 5-11-11 D J Moffatt (8-1) D Moffatt 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

FRICKLEY 27l 10th to Lonesome Train in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good). LORD DORCET beat Imlintep 7l in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good to firm). DANCING DOVE beat Zandvoort 3½l in 11-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance (good) with EUROTWIST (8lb better off) 6l 5th. WEAVER GEORGE best effort this season when 18l 3rd of 5 to Frankos in handicap hurdle at Perth (2m 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: DANCING DOVE

3.30 OSWALD HUGHES AMATEUR RIDERS MAIDEN HURDLE
(£2,514: 2m 6f 110yd) (18 runners)
1 00/P ARCTICTALDI 7 (Panther Racing Ltd) Mrs A Swinbank 5-11-10 C Wilson (7) –
2 B31- COMMANDEER 223P (S) (A Chappell) Miss M Milligan 5-11-10 Miss P Robson (7) –
3 USP08/F DROMIN FOX 7 (S Robson) S Robson 9-11-10 S Robson (7) –
4 2PP- GIVE IT LALDY 205P (Maclennan Mills) L Lungo 5-11-10 K Anderson (3) –
5 53/0P6-0 GRAND AS OWT 17 (Miss N Neal) D McCune 5-11-10 M Coglan (7) –
6 32/0P0-0 GROG 30 (D Swindlehurst) D Swindlehurst 6-11-10 D Swindlehurst (7) 82
7 60P/ ISLAND RIVER 572 (Jacksons Timber) C Parker 7-11-10 A Parker (7) –
8 4/364-0 LUCIMAN 17 (Panlyn Racing) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-10 M H Naughton (7) 98
9 RR2/ MASTER SANDY 976 (F) (Miss I Forrest) B Mactaggart 8-11-10 R Hale (5) –
10 MERRY ROSE (The Brew Partnership) M Hammond 5-11-10 C Bonner (3) –
11 P0020-2 NEW CHARGES 9 (G) (Mrs M Beaumont) P Beaumont 8-11-10 Mrs A Farrell [99]
12 00P- TANGO IN PARIS 224P (B) (Mrs E Moscrop) Mrs E Moscrop 5-11-10 G Moscrop (7) –
13 TIMES LEADER (Mrs D Hall) P Calver 6-11-10 Miss K Hill (7) –
14 00/5 TRENWRUM 30 (M Boyd) R Allan 6-11-10 A Robson (7) 84
15 P- VINES CROSS 311 (J Keith) T Carr 7-11-10 C Mulhall (7) –
16 322633 BLOOMING SPRING 18 (Mrs J McGregor) Mrs D Thomson 6-11-5 M Mackley (7) 91
17 UP-0 CORNKITTY 17 (G) (D Thomson) A Thomson 8-11-5 K Whelan (5) –
18 300/52-3 GYMCRAK CYRANO 21 (N Chamberlain) N Chamberlain 6-11-5 Miss C Metcalfe (7) 95

BETTING: 3-1 Luciman, 5-1 New Charges, 8-1 Merry Rose, Gymcrak Cyrano, 10-1 Commandeer, 12-1 others.

1994. NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

COMMANDEER beat Gold Dam ½l in maiden open at Flagg Moor (soft). LUCIMAN 23l 9th of 17 to Sierra Madrona in novice hurdle at Ayr (3m 110yd, good) with CORNKITTY 20l 10th. Previously 10¾l 4th of 11 to Countrymaster in novice hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft). MASTER SANDY 3l 2nd of 11 to Tartan Trademark in novice hurdle at Carlisle (2m 4f 110yd, good). March 1993 NEW CHARGES 10l 2nd of 5 to Rich Desire in handicap hurdle at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm). BLOOMING SPRING 12¼l 3rd to Izza in novices handicap hurdle at Kelso (2m 110yd, good). GYMCRAK CYRANO 11¾l 3rd to Highland Park in novices handicap hurdle at Carlisle (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm).
Selection: LUCIMAN

☐ Lando, trained in Germany by Heinz Jentzsch and ridden by Michael Roberts, won the £1,101,928 Japan Cup in Tokyo yesterday to break a three-year Japanese winning run in one of the world's richest races. The locally-trained Hishi Amazon finished second, beaten 1½ lengths, followed by the French raider Hernando. Pure Grain (John Reid), trained by Michael Stoute, finished tenth of the 14 runners after reportedly fracturing her off hind and may not race again.

Merry Gale heads for Kempton

MERRY GALE is on course for the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day after a winning performance in the MMI Chase at Punchestown on Saturday (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes).

Once Imperial Call had fallen at the first and, more significantly, Klairon Davis had come down at the fifth Merry Gale faced an easy task and Richard Dunwoody pushed him out to beat King Of The Gales by ten lengths.

His trainer, Jim Dreaper, admitted the race had gone Merry Gale's way but was still pleased. He said yesterday: "He jumped extremely well, but I expect him to be a stone better at Christmas."

Merry Gale also holds a Christmas engagement in Leopardstown's Ericsson Chase but the King George is the first preference. "We want to keep our options open but we are planning to go to Kempton," Dreaper said.

Dunwoody is expected to keep the ride on Merry Gale and he was impressed with Saturday's performance. "He is a real horse and he will improve from the run."

SPECIALISTS FOR TWO MEETINGS

WORCESTER: Trainers: C Mann, 5 winners from 14 runners, 35.7%; O Sherwood, 17 from 55, 30.9%, P Nicholls, 11 from 40, 27.5%; Miss H Knight, 9 from 36, 25.0%. Jockeys: J Osborne, 29 winners from 115 rides, 25.2%, A P McCoy, 16 from 67, 23.9%; G Bradley, 9 from 42, 21.4%; N Mann, 7 from 36, 19.4%

WOLVERHAMPTON: Trainers: M Johnston, 28 winners from 104 runners, 26.9%: Mrs M Reveley, 11 from 42, 26.2%; P Kelleway, 3 from 13, 23.1%; R Guest, 5 from 22, 22.7%. Jockeys: Amanda Sanders, 8 winners from 37 rides, 21.6%; T Ives, 20 from 111, 18.0%; P McCabe, 6 from 37, 16.2%, R Cochrane, 12 from 78, 15.4%

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WORCESTER

THUNDERER
12.50 Wren Warbler. 1.20 Northern Saddler. 1.50 Time For A Flutter. 2.20 Hebridean. 2.50 Mr Cotton Socks. 3.20 Raglan Road. 3.50 The Grey Friar.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.50 GENERAL CRACK.

GOING: GOOD SIS

12.50 RUSHOCK MARES ONLY NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,653: 2m) (22 runners)
101 2112 GALA'S PRIDE 54 (D,BF,F,G) N T-Davies 6-11-12 C Llewellyn 97
102 22-1 QUEENS CONSUL 12 (D,F) B Rothwell 5-11-5 M A Fitzgerald 98
103 1 RELKOWEN 16 (G,S) A Turnell 5-11-5 S McNeill [99]
104 0-0 ANNIE RUTH 79 Mrs J Pitman 4-10-12 W Marston –
105 ASHBY HILL 118F R Rowe 4-10-12 D O'Sullivan –
106 0 BOBBIE'S GIRL 51 J O'Shea 5-10-12 J R Kavanagh –
107 206- BODFARI PRODUCER 198 J Edwards 5-10-12 D Bentley –
108 P4- CHILDREN'S CHOICE 21F P McBride 4-10-12 N Mann 85
109 400- CHOWPOR 184 A Carroll 4-10-12 B Powell 97
110 0- CIPRIANI QUEEN 214 J Gifford 5-10-12 P Hide –
111 4 COME DANCE WITH ME 40 R Frost 5-10-12 J Frost –
112 2402 COMEDY HOUR 27 P Murphy 4-10-12 E Murphy –
113 00- GREENACRES ROSE 298 G Ham 5-10-12 S Burrough –
114 0 HOT DOG 26 R Brotherton 5-10-12 L Harvey –
115 650- KIRI'S ROSE 277 Mrs M McCourt 5-10-12 B Clifford 74
116 0- LADY HIGH SHERIFF 293 T Forster 5-10-12 R Dunwoody –
117 6-26 MUSICAL VOCATION 12 B Preece 4-10-12 G Hogan (3) –
118 010- MYBLACKTHORN 215 (S) P Nicholls 5-10-12 A P McCoy –
119 04-0 RESTATE 163 F Murphy 4-10-12 D J Kavanagh (5) –
120 03 VALLINGALE 27 Miss H Knight 4-10-12 J F Titley –
121 62-P WREN WARBLER 12 Mrs P Robeson 5-10-12 M Richards 98
122 6 YORKSHIRE POP 16 R Allsop 7-10-12 Mr M Rimell –

9-4 Queens Consul, 5-2 Relkowen, 6-1 Gala's Pride, 8-1 Vallingale, 10-1 others.

1.20 KEMPSEY HANDICAP CHASE (£4,502: 2m) (6)
201 360- BARNA BOY 234 (G,S) N Henderson 7-12-0 M A Fitzgerald 84
202 1P-P LACKENDARA 12 (D,F,G,S) Miss H Knight 8-11-9 J Osborne 98
203 41F1 TIME WON'T WAIT 12 (D,F,G) R Phillips 6-11-8 J Railton 97
204 35-1 NORTHERN SADDLER 13 (D,F,G,S) R Hodges 8-11-4 R Dunwoody [99]
205 5-1F JAMES THE FIRST 23 (D,F,G,S) P Nicholls 7-11-4 Guy Lewis (3) 97
206 U2-6 WHIPPERS DELIGHT 13 (D,G,S) G Charles-Jones 7-10-8 W McFarland 95

2-1 Northern Saddler, 5-2 Time Won't Wait, 9-2 James The First, 7-1 others.

1.50 RIVER SEVERN HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,861: 2m 4f) (14)
301 6/1- MAESTROSO 205 (D,F) R J Houghton 6-11-10 G McCourt 91
302 5326 HOLY JOE 16 (D,F,G,S) D Burchell 13-11-6 D J Burchell 90
303 511- DESMOND GOLD 356 (D,G,S) Mrs D Haine 7-11-6 J F Titley 84
304 10/ SESAME SEED 598 (S) Mrs J Cecil 7-11-4 T Kent –
305 5F-P AMBLESIDE HARVEST 17 (D,G,S) J J O'Neill 8-11-3 A Roche (3) –
306 52-1 MR WOODLARK 40 (F,S) R Frost 8-11-1 J Frost 90
307 560- FONTANAYS 212 (S) Mrs M McCourt 7-10-12 B Clifford [99]
308 515- IMA DELIGHT 298 (D,S) Mrs P Sly 8-10-11 Miss L Allan 98
309 65/ JARRWAH 632 (D,G) J Spearing 7-10-11 Miss C Spearing (7) –
310 5-32 TIME FOR A FLUTTER 15 (G) C James 6-10-8 Mr E James 95
311 2F0- OATS N BARLEY 240 (G) P Rodford 6-10-6 S Burrough 91
312 313- KADARI 271 (S) W Clay 6-10-4 J Lodder 86
313 200- VISCOUNT TULLY 270 (S) C Jackson 10-10-3 W Humphreys 98
314 4-U3 DOC COTTRILL 9 (S) N Twiston-Davies 5-10-2 C Llewellyn 95

3-1 Mr Woodlark, 6-1 Holy Joe, 7-1 Maestroso, Time For A Flutter, 8-1 Desmond Gold, 10-1 Ima Delight, 14-1 others.

2.20 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE
(Qualifier: £3,155: 2m 4f 110yd) (9)
401 /U1- BIRONI 179 (F,G,S) T Forster 6-11-6 C Llewellyn [99]
402 111- BEAR CLAW 255 (S) O Sherwood 6-11-0 J Osborne –
403 DARLEYFORDBAY K Bailey 6-11-0 T J Murphy (3) –
404 -0UU DONT RISE ME 12 M Churches 6-11-0 Mr L Jefford –
405 4P-0 HEBRIDEAN 23 (G,S) D Nicholson 8-11-0 R Dunwoody –
406 121- KING LUCIFER 318 (G,S) D Nicholson 6-11-0 W Marston –
407 P0-U LITTLE GAINS 23 R Lee 6-11-0 J Railton –
408 06/ OLLIVER DUCKETT 528F Mrs J Sidebottom 6-11-0 Mr J Jukes –
409 PP/ LORNA-GAIL 607 (G,S) R Alner 9-10-9 Mr P Henley (5) –

5-4 Bear Claw, 2-1 Hebridean, 3-1 King Lucifer, 10-1 Bironi, 12-1 others.

2.50 SPETCHLEY NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£2,863: 2m 4f) (25)
501 P-10 GENERAL CRACK 13 (D,G,S) P Nicholls 6-11-3 M A Fitzgerald [99]
502 2-01 HAWAIIAN SAM 16 (S) A Turnell 5-11-3 L Harvey 81
503 -133 STAR OF DAVID 23 (G) Miss A Embiricos 7-11-3 J Ryan 90
504 22-0 ARCTIC LIFE 9 J Jenkins 6-10-10 C Rae (7) 69
505 0- BRASSIC LINT 229 Mrs L Murphy 5-10-10 R Bryant –
506 4 CHARTER LANE 33 Mrs L Jewell 5-10-10 D Leahy –
507 0 CHATTERTON 26 G Balding 5-10-10 B Fenton (5) –
508 40-6 COOL RUNNER 14 Mrs S Hook 5-10-10 G Bradley 64
509 5- GENERAL SALUTE 329 G Balding 5-10-10 A P McCoy –
510 R6/ MARINERS MEMORY 587 R Brazington 7-10-10 W Humphreys –
511 MOUNT LODGE Mrs L Jewell 4-10-10 J Railton –
512 32 MR COTTON SOCKS 26 R Frost 7-10-10 J Frost 84
513 0- MUSIC THERAPY 261 T Forster 5-10-10 R Dunwoody –
514 /5-P NAUGHTY FUTURE 23 (G,S) J J O'Neill 6-10-10 A Roche (3) 73
515 0/ NUPOWN EXPRESS 586 N Chance 5-10-10 D Flanegal (7) –
516 3- PARSONS GIFT 224 Mrs J Pitman 7-10-10 W Marston –
517 /33- PETE THE PARSON 243 J Old 6-10-10 T Grantham 89
518 4 PHILATELIC 24 R Alner 4-10-10 Mr P Henley (5) 64
519 F00- SALTY SNACKS 407 Miss S Wilton 6-10-10 A Large –
520 PP-0 SAVUTI 11 M Wilkinson 6-10-10 B Powell 62
521 5-40 UNCLE BERT 12 Mrs M McCourt 5-10-10 D Byrne –
522 10/ WHAT'S YOUR STORY 586 (S) D Nicholson 6-10-10 G Hogan (3) –
523 3- GLENBROOK FORT 376 A J Wilson 6-10-5 B Clifford –
524 0 PAVLOVA 27 R Rowe 5-10-5 D O'Sullivan –
525 00- TELLICHERRY 288 Miss H Knight 6-10-5 J F Titley –

3-1 Pete The Parson, 4-1 Hawaiian Sam, 5-1 General Crack, Mr Cotton Socks, 10-1 Star Of David, 12-1 Cool Runner, Parsons Gift, 14-1 others.

3.20 MALVERN HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,987: 2m 7f) (12)
601 PP-F TALE OF ENDURANCE 9 (S) C Mann 7-12-0 J Railton –
602 314- NEWTON POINT 317 (F,G,S) T George 6-11-12 C Maude 81
603 /41 TRICKSOME 14 (F,G,S) Miss H Knight 8-11-9 J F Titley 85
604 P/P VODKA FIZZ 17 (F,S) R Rowe 10-11-9 D O'Sullivan –
605 -261 LUCKY AGAIN 14 (F,G) C Popham 8-11-9 T Dascombe (5) [99]
606 1-23 JIM VALENTINE 12 (F,S) C Broad 9-11-7 W Marston 95
607 F/2 RAGLAN ROAD 16 (F,G,S) Miss A Embiricos 11-11-6 J Ryan 98
608 41U- ALICE SMITH 324 (G,S) B Eckley 8-11-3 W McFarland 88
609 1/F WATERFORD CASTLE 13 (BF,G,S) K Bailey 8-11-3 R Dunwoody 95
610 P-65 PRUDENT PEGGY 13 (S) R Frost 8-11-2 J Frost 97
611 -U2P COURT MELODY 11 (B,G,S) P Nicholls 7-11-1 A P McCoy 91
612 3P-P ROSE LANCASTER 26 (G) M Griffin 12-10-0 B Fenton (5) 90

5-2 Tricksome, 5-1 Lucky Again, Waterford Castle, 7-1 Court Melody, 8-1 others.

3.50 LADYWOOD MAIDEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,455: 2m) (22)
1 APRIL SEVENTH C Broad 4-11-4 Mr A Wintle (7) –
2 BAXWORTHY LORD C Popham 4-11-4 T Dascombe (5) –
3 CHAN THE MAN N Walker 4-11-4 Guy Lewis (3) –
4 0- COLWALL 224 R Allsop 4-11-4 D Leahy –
5 0 COUNTRY BOY 12 J Bridger 4-11-4 M Clinton (7) –
6 0- DANCING RANGER 245 Miss S Wilton 4-11-4 N Willmington (7) –
7 EQUINOX Mrs M Jones 4-11-4 J Cooke (7) –
8 FOREST IVORY D Nicholson 4-11-4 R Massey (5) –
9 KALADROSS W Jenks 4-11-4 S Curran (3) –
10 4 PILKINGTON 13 Mrs H Parrott 5-11-4 Philip Hughes (7) –
11 RAISE AND GAIN N Twiston-Davies 4-11-4 M Keighley (7) –
12 0- ROYAL SILVER 198 T Forster 4-11-4 B Fenton (5) –
13 4 SCHWARTZNDIGGER 45 N T-Davies 5-11-4 S Joynes (7) –
14 00- STEADY BARKER 224 R Allsop 5-11-4 Mr M Rimell –
15 STIFF DRINK R Jacks 4-11-4 P McLoughlin –
16 0 SWISS TACTIC 52 A Jessop 6-11-4 G Tormey (3) –
17 5 THE GREY FRIAR 12 Miss H Knight 6-11-4 Mr J Culloty (7) –
18 0/ WOODYOU 614 F Jordan 5-11-4 Mr G Shenkin (7) –
19 5- BIG VAL 224 B Preece 5-10-13 G Hogan (3) –
20 00- LANDSKER STAR 240 F Hollis 5-10-13 D Salter (5) –
21 0-0 MILLY LE MOSS 12 R Eckley 6-10-13 D Walsh (5) –
22 0-0 PARTY BEDLAM 12 C James 5-10-13 Mr E James –

3-1 Forest Ivory, 4-1 Schwartzndigger, 6-1 Pilkington, The Grey Friar, 8-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Worcester: 3.20 Court Melody. Kelso: 3.00 Weaver George. Wolverhampton: 3.10 Sweet Supposin, Just Flamenco, 4.40 Horsetrader

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER
2.10 Victim Of Love. 2.40 Second Colours. 3.10 Queens Stroller. 3.40 Los Alamos. 4.10 Jigsaw Boy. 4.40 Pistols At Dawn. 5.10 Ballymac Girl.
Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.10 JUST FLAMENCO (nap).

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

2.10 RICOH UK LTD FILLIES MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,024: 7f) (9 runners)
1 0 BEVERLY HILLS 55 J Hills 8-5 M Henry (5) 9
2 04 VICTIM OF LOVE 13 R Charlton 8-5 S Sanders 5
3 53 POSEN GOLD 123 P Kelleway 8-2 J Quinn 3
4 ROXANE A Bailey 8-2 D Wright (3) 4
5 54 LADY DIGNITY 21 P Makin 8-0 A Whelan (5) 2
6 00 SHEPHERDS DEAN 11 P Haslam 8-0 L Charnock 1
7 0005 ALISTOVER 14 R Dickin 7-12 Dale Gibson 7
8 06 HAVANA HEIGHTS 165 J Eyre 7-12 R Lappin 8
9 5332 SCENICRIS 25 R Hollinshead 7-12 N Carlisle 6

7-4 Posen Gold, 7-2 Scenicris, 9-2 Victim Of Love, Lady Dignity, 8-1 others.

2.40 DAVIES ROSE LIFFORD HALL CLAIMING STAKES (Div I: £2,187: 1m 1f 79yd) (10)
1 1116 SECOND COLOURS 73 (C,D,F,G) Mrs Reveley 5-9-5 G Parkin (5) 1
2 0003 PEACEFULL REPLY 7 (F) F Lee 5-9-3 A Culhane 10
3 5300 PERSIAN FLOWER 7 C Barwell 3-8-5 P McCabe (3) 8
4 52 DANNISTAR 14 P Evans 3-8-3 S Sanders 3
5 3000 KOMIAMAITE 21 (B) S Bowring 3-8-3 C Teague (5) 5
6 -110 SWEET DISORDER 174 (F) B Meehan 5-8-2 C Rutter 4
7 2005 DOWDENCY 11 (C,G) J Pickering 3-8-1 N Varley (3) 6
8 0000 MAZILLA 7 (C,G) A Streeter 3-8-1 J Quinn 7
9 0 MYSTICTICH 11 G Barnett 3-8-1 N Carlisle 9
10 6443 EQUILIBRIUM 16J (F) J Hills 3-7-11 M Henry (5) 2

7-4 Second Colours, 7-2 Dannistar, Equilibrium, 8-1 Dowdency, 10-1 others.

3.10 DAVIES ROSE LIFFORD HALL CLAIMING STAKES (Div II: £2,187: 1m 1f 79yd) (10)
1 0040 CANARY FALCON 8 (C,G) John Berry 4-9-3 M Wigham 10
2 1000 SWEET SUPPOSIN 11 (V,C,D) C Dwyer 4-9-3 C Dwyer 8
3 6000 CHADLEIGH LANE 58 (C,G) R Hollinshead 3-8-10 T Ives 2
4 0005 JUST FLAMENCO 11 (V,F,S) M Ryan 4-8-9 D Biggs 1
5 NDABA 16J N Twiston-Davies 4-8-9 V Slattery 5
6 00 BEGGER'S OPERA 6 Pat Mitchell 3-8-4 DOUBTFUL 7
7 0000 QUEENS STROLLER 31 (CD,G) C Elsey 4-8-2 J Quinn 9
8 0000 CHARLIE-DON'T SURF 6 R Guest 3-8-0 L Charnock 4
9 0620 HUNZA STORY 27 (F) N Littmoden 3-7-12 C Adamson (5) 3
10 00 PRETTY SCARCE 17 B Preece 4-7-12 N Adams 6

5-2 Sweet Supposin, 3-1 Queens Stroller, 7-2 Just Flamenco, 4-1 Canary Falcon, 8-1 Chadleigh Lane, Ndaba, 10-1 others.

3.40 SAIT ABRASIVES NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £2,995: 1m 100yd) (4)
1 3043 LOS ALAMOS 7 C Thornton 9-7 D McKeown 2
2 0144 IMAGE MAKER 14 (CD,G) B Preece 8-12 N Adams 1
3 0012 DOMOOR 63 (BF,G) M Johnston 8-5 J Fanning 3
4 000 TINA KATERINA 14 R Champion 7-7 C Adamson (5) 4

5-4 Domoor, 2-1 Los Alamos, 3-1 Image Maker, 20-1 Tina Katerina.

4.10 LADBROKE SERIES HANDICAP
(Qualifier: £3,224: 6f) (11)
1 0005 BOLD STREET 21 (CD,G,S) A Bailey 5-9-10 D Wright (3) 8
2 4202 JIGSAW BOY 14 (D,F,S) P Murphy 6-9-3 S Sanders 11
3 5103 ANOTHER BATCHWORTH 7 (CD,G) S Mellor 3-9-3 R Perham 3
4 0000 DAVID JAMES' GIRL 7 (C,G,S) A Bailey 3-9-1 Iona Wands (7) 7
5 1125 EFFICACY 137 (CD,BF,G) A Jarvis 4-8-12 J Tate 10
6 5540 SWEET MATE 38 (B,D,G) S Bowring 3-8-9 C Teague (5) 9
7 0414 NORTHERN SPARK 25 (D,F,G) Miss L Perratt 7-8-6 R Cochrane 1
8 2002 INDIAHRA 7 (V,G,S) R Hollinshead 4-8-6 N Carlisle 4
9 /6 MCKELLAR 62 T Barron 6-8-5 L Charnock 2
10 0000 ASTROJOY 17 (B) S Knight 3-7-9 N Varley (3) 6
11 6600 WOODLANDS ELECTRIC 74 P Pritchard 5-7-7 N Adams 5

9-4 Jigsaw Boy, 9-2 Sweet Mate, 5-1 Indiahra, Northern Spark, 8-1 Efficacy, 8-1 Another Batchworth, 12-1 others.

4.40 STEELWAY FENCESECURE SELLING STAKES (£2,259: 1m 4f) (11)
1 2-15 OLD PROVENCE 60 (CD,F,G) R Harris 5-9-8 A Mackay 10
2 6144 PISTOLS AT DAWN 147 (CD,F,G,S) B Meehan 5-9-8 G Hannon (7) 3
3 0000 NORD LYS 13J B Llewellyn 4-8-3 J Quinn 8
4 2065 SHARP THRILL 21 B Smart 4-9-3 R Cochrane 9
5 0351 COAST ALONG 46J (D,F) D Burchell 3-9-2 D McKeown 8
6 0000 ANN HILL 91 (D,F,G) R Hollinshead 5-8-12 F Lynch (7) 7
7 4145 CASHMIRE 11 (F) J Eyre 3-8-11 R Lappin 1
8 0600 HORSETRADER 9J (V) B Baugh 3-8-11 W Lord 5
9 0-5 JUST BY CHANCE 55J A Barrow 3-8-11 N Adams 11
10 5000 JUST LUCKY 11 (G) Mrs N Macauley 3-8-11
11 0300 LILAC RAIN 7 J Arnold 3-8-6 Amanda Sanders (7) 2 C Rutter 4

9-4 Old Provence, 9-2 Pistols At Dawn, 7-1 Lilac Rain, Coast Along, 8-1 Sharp Thrill, Just Lucky, 10-1 others.

5.10 THORPE VERNON FILLIES HANDICAP STAKES (£2,537: 1m 6f 166yd) (7)
1 1000 SURE CARE 104 (F) M Ryan 4-10-0 T Ives 1
2 3010 BALLYMAC GIRL 11 (CD,G,S) J Bradley 7-9-13 L Charnock 7
3 4020 SILVER SINGER 6 D Loder 3-9-10 R Cochrane 4
4 /60 MARJAN 7 I Calderdt 4-9-2 A Culhane 3
5 0-00 CAFE GLACE 182 R Akehurst 3-8-11 S Sanders 6
6 5000 TAP ON TOOTSIE 61 T Carmichell 3-8-8 A Whelan (5) 2
7 2600 FOOLS OF PRIDE 56 (CD,G) R Hollinshead 3-8-6 F Lynch (7) 5

5-4 Silver Singer, 9-4 Ballymac Girl, 4-1 Sure Care, 6-1 Cafe Glace, 50-1 Marjan, Tap On Tootsie, 66-1 Fools Of Pride.

كذا من الاصل

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Spurred on by her horse-mad daughter, **Maire Nic Suibhne** overcomes her fears after a 20-year absence

Back in the saddle and learning to fly

JULIAN HERBERT

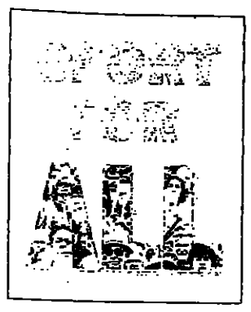


One woman at ease with her horse: but, says the author, "the problem I presented was a daunting task. I had completely lost faith in myself. It would take a really gifted teacher to help me to get it back"

For years I charged across the country undaunted by bank, ditch, hedge, or dry stone wall. I had my share of bad moments — jammed against rocks by a pony attemping to fly, squashed by a 17-hand hunter when a sodden bankgave way.

Twnty years on I can recall the sr-unch of hooves against my clin and hands. But none of thisstopped me at the time. It wasbecoming a mother that did fc me. I lost my nerve completely. The thought of jumpiig a row of matchboxes filled tie with terror.

Seeing my daughter, Merilyn, now 12 and horse-mad, uiscovering all the fun



and excement of riding re-awakend my longing for the sheer jy of going cross-country over fences. Hoping for a miraculous transformation fron sheep into lioness I travelled with Merilyn to the Fagan family's Equestrian Centre at Mullingar, prime horse country in the centre of Ireland

I walked into the yard with apprehnsion. Watching our entranc, Helen Meehan, the instructor, later told me what she thought. "When you put your fot in the yard I thought, 'This isthe kind of one who's going o start shrieking and screamng the moment the horse starts trotting'. But I'm always willing to give the impossble a try."

She wasn't wasting any time. Bailey, the most gentle animalin the yard (and at no more than 15 hands, not too dauntiig) was already tacked up and waiting. But my attempt o mount was painful in every ense. I had to let down the stirrup to scramble up with Helen acting as counter-weighton the other side to stop the saddle being dragged underthe animal's belly. I felt like a very old woman climbing a very high mountain.

Heen's relaxed manner concealed a well thought-out strategy. On the first day I was put through a few basic exercises in the indoor arena, walking, trotting, cantering with and without stirrups, then over poles on the ground. Helen was already working on the bad habits of a lifetime. "Don't lean your shoulder in at the corners. Relax. Sit like a jelly."

Sit like a jelly indeed! I was shivering like a jelly. And then came the dreaded jumps . . .

Meanwhile the daughter was a study in pre-adolescent boredom as she followed me round. The look on her face said it all — "What am I doing lumped with this fossil? When does the real action begin?"

The problem I presented was a daunting task. I had completely lost faith in myself. It would take a really gifted teacher to help me to get it back. Almost immediately I knew I could trust Helen. Whether she could make me trust myself remained to be seen.

"I'll put up a few wee cross poles," said Helen as casually as if she were offering a cup of tea. Fortunately Bailey, unlike most horses, did not get jittery in response. She carried her frozen lump over the poles as gently as if she'd had Eddie Macken up. I got it right a few times and was glad when Helen called it a day. I'd jumped all of two feet, but the sense of achievement was like being on the winning team for the Aga Khan cup at the Dublin Horse Show.

Helen had sensed it was crucial to get me over jumps, however small, straight away. Had she not I would have lain awake in dread all night counting wee jumps in a sweat. But less than an hour in the saddle and already I ached all over. I planned to get up my strength by working in the yard, but mud rash, galls and seedy toe seemed like ailments more likely to afflict me than any horse in the country.

"Take it easy," advised the kindly Margaret Fagan. "If you try to overdo it you'll be worn out by the end of the week and it won't do your riding any good. And don't worry about losing your nerve. It happens to all of us."

Next morning we had a gentle canter and some gallops round the 200-acre horse and cattle farm, taking in a few little obstacles hardly worthy of the term banks, but useful as confidence builders. Later we worked on the flat to improve control and movement.

Only when Helen began to put up jumps and started raising them did Merilyn, who had disappeared into the camaraderie of the yard, wake up. Asked to knot the reins and hold her arms out in the air she finally lit up and asked for more. Sticking my arms out, away from easy reach of a mane to grab in an emergency, seemed like recklessness, but Helen's reassurance came at the right moment.

"You haven't got the perfect classic style but you have such a sound seat. I'm not doing too much to alter it. I can see you rode bareback as a child. You'd be very hard to shift. You certainly have stickability."

Next day I joined Robert Fagan, international show-jumping rider, over a cross-country course with a dozen other riders and Merilyn. All went well over a few warm-up obstacles of logs and poles. Then suddenly coming into a jump I went weak at the knees and had to pull away. I felt sick with nerves.

Robert couldn't have been more supportive. "Don't worry. It will be all right. Just pick what you want." Gates were opened and wire let down as this wimp trundled through fields in the wake of the happy cavalcade clearing every obstacle in sight. As I slipped through a gap to the left of a hedge my daughter flew past taking it at the gallop. When I caught up with her she looked puzzled and asked, "Why aren't you jumping?"

Then coming into a bank across a drain, Merilyn's horse and most of the others started refusing. I thought 'Monstrous child, I've ridden across bigger country than you've ever seen,' and put Bailey at it before I had time to worry. She refused. I couldn't let her away with that and with a bit of encouragement she cleared it.

> 'I'm always willing to give the impossible a try'

I pushed Bailey on for the brow of the hill. The ground under me came to an abrupt end, giving way to a drop. I looked down. A cardinal mistake. It shifts your balance forward and it's a long way down from a horse over a drop. It felt like asking myself to jump off a house. My newfound courage took flight as suddenly as it had arrived. I wheeled the horse round. No way was I jumping that!

Down below waited Robert and a whole field of riders. "This one's easy. You can do it." With his encouragement and a whole cavalcade willing me over, shouting: "Come on, don't look down, look out," I gave Bailey a little kick and she glided down. Of 26 jumps I'd cleared only half a dozen, but that one cracked it. From here on I knew I could work my way back to bigger things.

Merilyn had jumped everything and was asking for more.

But Margaret Fagan gave me a parting shot: "A couple of drinks and you'd be fit for a day's hunting with the Westmeath."

Now I've got my nerve back I might give my daughter a run for her money and wipe that look off her face.



FACT BOX

THE British Horse Society has a register of specialist instructors and will recommend one to suit specific needs, such as for those wishing to regain lost confidence.

The cost is likely to range from £15 to £25 an hour. For more information contact BHS Training and Examination Office, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LR (01203 696697).

Margaret and Robert Fagan, Mullingar Equestrian Centre, Rathcolman, Mullingar, Co Westmeath, Ireland (00 353 44 48331) offer one week's accommodation and 15 hours' horse-riding instruction.

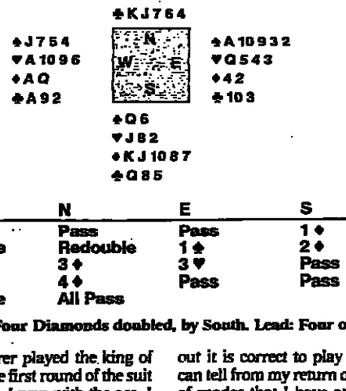
The cost is £395 in the low season, rising to £425 per week in July and August. Riding tuition only costs £15 to £25 an hour.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

When the defence miss their way it is surprising how often either player could have retrieved the situation. Here is a case in point, from the BBL Premier League match between Sowter and Rosen.

Dealer North — East - West vulnerable — IMP's



W	N	E	S
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
Double	Redouble	1♠	2♦
2♠	3♦	3♥	Pass
3♠	4♦	Pass	Pass
Double	All Pass		

Contract: Four Diamonds doubled, by South. Lead: Four of Spades

The declarer played the king of spades on the first round of the suit and, as East, I won with the ace. I returned the three of spades and declarer won in hand and played a heart towards dummy. Senior (West) took the ace (I followed with the five), and returned a heart. Declarer played on trumps and went two down, losing four aces and the queen of diamonds.

What happened to East's club ruff? First, it is clear I should have switched to a club after winning the spade — West is marked with the other three aces for his double. Playing a club does not risk an accident because West will cash the ace of hearts and the queen of spades, if he has it, before continuing clubs.

Second, when Senior won the ace of hearts I think he can work out it is correct to play clubs. He can tell from my return of the three of spades that I have at most five spades (I must have returned my original fourth highest) and from my play of the five of hearts I must have four.

So if I only have one diamond I will have three clubs and then declarer will always guess them right if he is missing the queen. Thus playing ace and another club cannot cost.

☐ There was an error in my description of Nilsland's defence in the Weekend section last Saturday. West, not East, discarded the three of clubs on the second round of diamonds.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Zonal qualifiers

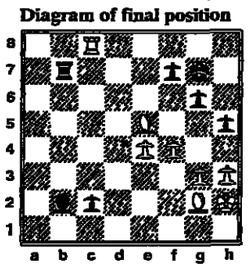
Holland, Spain and the United Kingdom captured all five qualifying places from the Zonal tournament in Linares, Spain, which finished over the weekend. The tournament was won by the Spanish Grandmaster, Miguel Illescas, a sample of whose play follows. The remaining qualifying places went to Loek van Wely, John van der Wiel and Paul van der Sterren (all Holland) and Peter Wells (UK). Grandmaster Tony Miles, who had led for most of the tournament, collapsed in the final few rounds and was forced into a rapid-play tie-break. Again his earlier good form deserted him, and he finished in joint last place.

White: Miguel Illescas
Black: Jeroen Piket
Linares Zonal, November 1995

King's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	Nf3	d6
3	g3	g6
4	Bg2	Bg7
5	0-0	0-0
6	c4	Nbd7
7	Nc3	e5
8	e4	a6
9	Qc2	exd4
10	Nxd4	Ne5
11	b3	c5
12	Nde2	Rb8
13	a4	Bg4
14	f3	Bd7
15	Rd1	Ne8
16	f4	Nc8
17	Be3	Bg4
18	Rab1	Qa5
19	h3	Bxe2
20	Nxe2	b5
21	axb5	axb5
22	cxb5	Rxb5
23	Kh2	h5
24	Qc4	Rb4
25	Bd2	Rxc4
26	Bxa5	Rc2
27	Rd2	Rxd2
28	Bxd2	Nd4
29	Nxd4	Bxd4
30	b4	Nf6
31	b5	Nd7
32	Ba5	Ra8
33	Bc7	Ra2
34	b6	c4
35	b7	Bb2
36	Rd1	c3
37	Rxd6	Ra7
38	Rxd7	Rxb7
39	Rd8+	Kg7
40	Rc8	c2
41	Be5+	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Times World championship book

All games of the world title match are now available with commentary by Raymond Keene in a *Times* book, *World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand* (Batsford £9.99). Credit card orders on 01376 327901 (please quote 5/655).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

CHASUBLE
a. A maiden's dress
b. A waistcoat
c. Real Tennis kit

LIRIPIPE
a. An epaulette
b. The seam on dress trousers
c. Headgear attachment

NANKEEN
a. Menswear cloth
b. A Chinese cloak
c. A smart Victorian tart

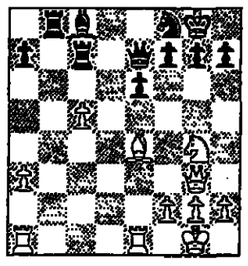
FEDORA
a. A hat
b. Corsican bandit's waistcoat
c. A head-dress ostrich feather

Answers on page 41

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Botvinnik - Scharov, Leningrad 1928. Black's position looks fine, but his rooks are in slightly clumsy positions and are menaced by the white queen on g3. Can you spot the clever way by which White exploited these factors?



Solution on page 41

COLLECT 30 TOKENS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN £20,000 FOR AN 80-DAY HOLIDAY



Win a trip for two to Oman

The Times and *The Sunday Times*, are offering readers the chance to win one of 80 holidays for two, plus 10 per cent discounts, to a range of destinations throughout the world.

Today's prize is an 11-day holiday to Oman, still relatively unknown to tourists but now slowly emerging to welcome visitors.

You will fly to Muscat with Gulf Air, visit the forts of Nakhl, Rustaq and al-Hazm and continue to the Batinah coast area around Suhar, returning to Muscat via Suywaidi Beach. From there you will go by four-wheel drive to Sur, renowned for its dhow building skills, stopping at the oasis town of Wadi Shab and the ancient city of Qalhaat. Your holiday continues with a visit to Nazwa, the ancient capital city at the foot of the Jebel Akhdar mountains, before visits to Taqah and Mirbat which became rich from the frankincense trade, and then to the prophet Job's tomb at Muscat.

DEPARTURES: March 8, April 5, October 11 and November 29, 1996. Price: £1,597, down from £1,775 with our 10% discount. To win today's holiday, simply answer the question below and phone our competition hotline: 0891 40 50 34, open until midnight tonight. The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries. Normal *Times* Newspapers competition rules apply.

Q. What type of boats do they build at Sur?

Calls are charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p at all other times.

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FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

CROSS COUNTRY: International race (Gateshead): Men: 1.9km: 1, A Pearson (Longwood) 5:04; 2, A Whiteman (GEC Avionics) 5:05; 3, G Stewart (Leslie D RC) 5:06. Inter-club "Mob" Match (Wimbledon Common) Men: 7.5miles: W Oxborough (Thames H and H) 40:29. London Colleges League (Wimbledon Common): Men: 5.5miles: 1, K Kyereme (Roehampton I) 31:01; 2, J Brooks (St George's) 31:01; 3, G O'Looney (St Mary's C) 31:01. Teams: First division: 1, Brunel Univ 390pts; 2, Royal Holloway and Bedford C 390; 3, Imperial C 354. London Championships (Parliament Hill Fields): Men: 6 miles: 1, S Snow (Highgate) 30:14; 2, J Pes (Highgate) 30:28; 3, G Reid (Thames V) 30:44. Team: Highgate 13pts.

BADMINTON

KELVIN HALL, Glasgow: Scottish Open: Finals: Men: Singles: P Knowles (Eng) bt J Laugesen (Den) 15-11, 15-7. Doubles: N Ponting and J Robertson (Eng) bt J Larsen and S Osterberg (Swe) 15-5, 15-6. Women: Singles: C Bengtsson (Swe) bt D Piche (Can) 8-11, 11-4, 11-9. Doubles: C Bengtsson and M Bengtsson (Swe) bt E Chaffin and S Hardaker (Eng) 15-7, 15-5. Mixed doubles: L Pedersen and A-M Elle (Den) bt J Robertson and L Cole (Eng) 17-14, 15-10.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Derby 96 Manchester 91; Hemel 71 Worthing 84; Newcastle 87 Chester 76.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Charlotte 116 Vancouver 104; Detroit 101 Philadelphia 78; Cleveland 100 Indiana 93; Washington 110 Miami 94; Golden State 101 Boston 94; Orlando 109 Minnesota 98; Chicago 90 Utah 85; Denver 112 Dallas 109 (OT); Portland 99 New Jersey 87; Seattle 112 San Antonio 100; Sacramento 99 LA Lakers 98.

BOBSLEIGHING

LILLEHAMMER, Norway: Men's World Cup: Four-man event: 1, Germany I 1min 44.37sec; 2, Germany III 1:44.38; 3, Canada I 1:44.44.

BOWLS

DENNY CUP: Fourth round: St Neots 68 Cambridge T 75; Lawson Pk 70 Ely 84; Kingsthorpe 72 Rugby T 62; N Walsham 109 Garrow 50; Acle 76 Pinewood Pk 65; Barking 64 Tye Green 89; Tilbury 106 Falcon 64; Hebburn 51 Cumbria 103; Stanley 51 Sunderland 87; Thornaby 88 Gt Aycliffe 64; Scunthorp 69 Old Mill 91; Grantham 78 South Forest 75; Boston 71 Spaulding 65; Desborough (Maidenhead) 87 Herts 55; Foxhill 63 W Berks 79; Bentham 69 Cotswold 95; Swindon W 86 Whitchurch 56; Stourvale 53 British Cellophane 121; Victoria (Street) 60 Taunton 102; Bodmin 78 Tourbay 76; Teignbridge 102 Exonia 60; Wey V 67 Cambridge Pk 80; Egham 63 Mansfield 96; Cyphers 116 Donyngs 66; Crystal P 91 Mole V 68; Angel 67 Sevenoaks 81; Grattons 45 Preston 109; Dolphin 88 Adur 70; E Dorset 70 Victory 66; Erdington Ct 75 Avon V 90.

BOXING

THE POINT, Dublin: World Boxing Organisation Super-middleweight Championship: (12rds) Steve Collins (Dublin, holder) bt Cornelius Carr (Middlesbrough) pts. Super-middleweight: Paschal Collins (Dublin) bt Marvin O'Brien (Leeds) pts. Middleweight: Danny Ryan (Donegal) bt Mark Dawson (Burton) pts. Cruiserweight: Terry Dunstan (London) bt Jimmy Bills (US) rsc 7th. Welterweight: Michael Carruth (Dublin) bt Paul Denton (Sheffield) pts. Eamonn Magee (Belfast) bt Peter Roberts (Hull) rsc 4th. Light-welterweight: Mark Winters (Belfast) bt Jon O'Johnson (Nottingham) rsc 2nd. Featherweight: Paul Griffin (Dublin) bt Michael Hermon (Birmingham) pts.

GORESBROOK LEISURE CENTRE, Dagenham: Commonwealth Lightweight Championship: (12rds) David Tetteh (Ghana) bt Billy Schwer (holder, Luton) rsc 12th. Light-Middleweight: Steve Roberts (West Ham) bt Ernie Loveridge (Stourbridge) pts. Super-featherweight: Michael Wright (Chatham) bt Mark O'Callaghan (Tunbridge Wells) pts. Super-bantamweight: Michael Brodie (Manchester) bt Karl Maudling (Northampton) rsc 1st. Michael Alldis (Crawley) bt Conn McMullen (Ireland) ko 4th. Bantamweight: Spencer Oliver (Barnet) bt Shaun Anderson (Scot) rsc 3rd.

CRICKET

MACKAY, Australia: Tour match (final day of the tour): Queensland 305 and 255; Sri Lankans 178 and 109 (Kasprowicz 5-31). Queensland won by 273 runs.

MELBOURNE: Tour match (third day of four): Pakistanis 154 and 279 (Inzamam-ul-Haq 132); Victoria 362 (Dean Jones 127). Victoria won by eight wickets. REUTER

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (third day of four): Hobart: New South Wales 368-9 dec (G Matthews 73, S Lee 63; S Young 4-74) and 270-5 dec (M Taylor 73, K Roberts 62, M Slater 50); Tasmania 283 (D Hills 85, R Ponting 46, N Maxwell 6-56) and 19-0. Adelaide: Western Australia 309 (A Gilchrist 99 not out, M Hussey 48; M Harrity 4-75, T May 3-83) and 345-8 (J Langer 153, A Gilchrist 46 not out, J Gillespie 3-93); South Australia 353-9 dec (D Lehmann 116, J Siddons 98, B Julian 5-70, B Reid 4-53).

CASTLE CUP (third day of four): Durban: Eastern Province 71 (S Pollock 5-19) and 173-5 (K Wessels 77); Natal 449-5 dec (A Hudson 153, R Steyn 108, D Crookes 64). Paarl: Boland 199 and 361 (A Kuiper 155, L Ferreira 50; S Jack 5-69); Transvaal 310 (A Bacher 91, M Rushmere 83, D Laing 71) and 1-3. East London: Northern Transvaal 183 and 118 (F Cronje 4-16); Border 427 (P Botha 71, S Tikolo 64, P Kirsten 63). Border beat Northern Transvaal by an innings and 126 runs

JAMSHEDPUR: Second women's Test match (third day of four): England 186 (S Dabir 4-36) and 84-4 (David 3-18); India 253 (S Dabir 60, S Shaw 54).

EQUESTRIANISM

BERLIN: Volvo World Cup Qualifying Tournament: 1, Everest Midnight Madness (M Whitaker, GB) clear 34.78sec; 2, San Patrignano Weihaiwej (F Sloothaak, Ger) clear 36.36; 3, Weiner Wibel (C-O Nagel, Ger) clear 38.41. British: 6, Everest Welfhem (J Whitaker) 4 faults 34.55.

GOLF

MELBOURNE: Men's Australian Open: Final round scores (Australia unless stated): 278: G Norman 72, 69, 69, 68. 280: P McWhinney 68, 70, 72, 70. 281: C Parry 70, 72, 71, 68; J L Guepy (Fr) 73, 69, 69, 70. 282: S Appleby 72, 72, 70, 68. 284: G Waite (NZ) 69, 73, 72, 70; M Hallberg (Swe) 72, 72, 71, 69. 285: D Hill 73, 70, 69, 73; P Lonard 76, 72, 70, 67. 286: R Allenby 71, 74, 71, 70; R Willis 71, 74, 70, 71; T Gale 71, 70, 73, 72. Selected scores: 290: B Jackson (GB) 73, 71, 74, 72; P Moss (US) 69, 76, 72, 73. 291: S Elkington 71, 75, 72, 73. 292: C van der Velde (Holl) 73, 72, 77, 70. 293: D Delong (US) 73, 75, 73, 72. 294: J Daly (US) 73, 69, 80, 73; W Grady 69, 71, 74, 80. 295: G Evans (GB) 74, 74, 72, 75.

IBUSUKI, Japan: Men's Casio World Open: Final scores (Japan unless stated): 274: S Okuda 69, 72, 69, 64. 275: M Ozaki 70, 69, 68, 68. 276: K Tomori 69, 70, 71, 66. 277: H Meshiai 66, 71, 70, 70. 279: C Rocca (It) 70, 70, 69, 70. 280: N Yuhara 72, 69, 71, 68; K Malta 65, 68, 76, 71. 281: R Gamez (US) 72, 74, 70, 65. 282: M Brooks (US) 72, 71, 72, 67; M A Jimenez (Sp) 73, 71, 70, 68; Y Mizumaki 76, 72, 65, 69; B Watts (US) 69, 73, 70, 70; D Ishii (US) 72, 71, 66, 73.

HARARE: Zimbabwe Open: Final scores (South Africa unless stated): 268: N Price (Zimb) 70, 65, 68, 65. 267: B Pappas 67, 67, 67, 66. 270: M Nomwa 69, 67, 67, 67. 271: M McNulty (Zim) 69, 66, 66, 70. 275: D Terblanche 70, 68, 67, 70. 276: C Williams (GB) 71, 66, 69, 70. 277: A Roestoff 72, 68, 65, 72; B Lincoln 67, 67, 72, 71. 278: R Stewart 69, 68, 70, 71; A da Silva (Br) 70, 71, 65, 72. 279: A MacKenzie (GB) 68, 69, 70, 72.

PGA European Tour Qualifying School: Final scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 277: H Buhrmann (SA) 67, 73, 69, 68. 281: S Gallacher (Scot) 72, 72, 68, 69; M Wills (Wales) 71, 68, 70, 72. 282: T Gogele (Ger) 67, 76, 68, 71. 283: G Ryall (Eng) 74, 69, 71, 69; S Pullan (Eng) 70, 70, 69, 74; A Collison (Eng) 69, 70, 71, 73. 284: J C Pinero (Sp) 73, 69, 68, 74; R Coles (Eng) 69, 72, 69, 74; S Webster (Eng) 74, 65, 71, 74; A Lebouc (Fr) 71, 68, 71, 74. 286: R Mann (Eng) 73, 70, 67, 76; G Clark (Eng) 70, 72, 67, 77; R Budde (Den) 72, 69, 73, 72; A Kankkonen (Fin) 74, 67, 71, 74. 287: A Cabrera (Arg) 71, 74, 67, 75; P Sjoland (Swe) 69, 76, 68, 74; R Muntz (Holl) 70, 72, 67, 78; C Post (Den) 71, 71, 71, 74; M Tunnicliff (Eng) 72, 70, 72, 73. 288: D Edlund (Swe) 79, 70, 72, 67; M Welch (Eng) 74, 73, 69, 72; A Haglund (Swe) 72, 74, 69, 73; D Higgins (Ire) 73, 73, 66, 76; J McHenry (Ire) 73, 72, 70, 73; M Plummer (Eng) 76, 68, 68, 76; O Sellberg (Swe) 70, 71, 72, 75; P Nyberg (Swe) 69, 67, 75, 77. 289: D Ray (Eng) 76, 70, 71, 70; D Chopra (Swe) 73, 72, 69, 75; D Howell (Eng) 70, 72, 71, 76; G Chalmers (Aus) 74, 68, 70, 77; F Howley (Ire) 72, 69, 75, 73. 290: A Tillman (Eng) 71, 77, 70, 72; C Hall (Eng) 74, 73, 69, 74; P Harrington (Ire) 71, 75, 68, 76; S Henderson (Scot) 70, 76, 69, 75; F Roca (Sp) 72, 73, 69, 76; I Feliu (Sp) 67, 77, 68, 78; B Tinning (Den) 71, 73, 72, 74; R Russell (Scot) 70, 73, 71, 76; G Owen (Eng) 72, 71, 73, 74; D Lynn (Eng) 72, 70, 69, 79; F Larsson (Swe) 72, 68, 72, 78; J Mellor (Eng) 66, 72, 71, 81. 291: D Fisher (Eng) 73, 75, 74, 69; L Batchelor (Eng) 76, 73, 71, 71; J Wimener (US) 75, 72, 69, 75; W Guy (Sco) 73, 74, 72, 72; A Gilner (Swe) 73, 73, 68, 77; A Hansen (Den) 75, 71, 66, 79; C Suneson (Eng) 71, 74, 70, 76; T Trodd (Eng) 72, 73, 71, 75; R Jacquelin (Fr) 71, 73, 72, 75; R Dinsdale (Wales) 73, 70, 70, 78; P Haugsrud (Nor) 74, 67, 70, 80; E Simsek (Ger) 72, 69, 71, 79; R May (US) 67, 73, 76, 75.

HOCKEY

CHISWICK: International match: Great Britain 1 (Hoskin) Argentina 1.

BRUSSELS: Pringiers memorial four nation tournament: Second series: Belgium 0 Spain 4; India 1 Pakistan 4. Standings: 1, Pakistan 4pts; 2, Spain 2; 3, Belgium 2.

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Barford Tigers 2 Cannock 2; Bournville 2 Hull 2; Reading 4 Stourport 0; Southgate 2 Old Loughtonians 1; St Albans 1 Guildford 6; Surbiton 5 Havant 4; Teddington 1 East Grinstead 1; Trojans 2 Indian Gymkhana 0; Hounslow 3 Canterbury 3. Second division: Beeston 3 Slough 2; Bromley 1 Bluehearts 2; Brooklands 3 Sheffield 0; Crostyx 0 Edgbaston 2; Firebrands 1 Oxford University 2; Hampstead and Westminster 1 City Of Portsmouth 2; Harleston Magpies 2 Doncaster 2; Isca 0 Gloucester City 1; Olton and West Warks 2 Richmond 1.

DTZ LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper 1 North Notts 3; Bridgnorth 0 Nottingham 3; Hampton-in-Arden 1 Loughborough Student 0; Harborne 3 Khalsa 0; John Player 2 Bloxwich 5.

SUN LIFE LEAGUE: First division: Bath Buccs 0 Cheltenham 1; Bristol 2 Swansea 1; Exeter Univ 4 Plymouth 1; Robinsons 3 Taunton Vale 1; Whitchurch 5 Weston-super-Mare 2.

ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Bedford Town 1 Chelmsford 1; Bishops Stortford 4 Colchester 3; Bury St Edmunds 0 Ipswich 4; Cambridge Univ 2 Peterborough Town 2; Cambridge City 4 Redbridge and Ilford 0. Premier division B: Brentwood 0 Norwich City 8; Dereham 3 Old Southendian 1; Ipswich and East Suffolk 2 Romford 0; Luton Town 7 Stevenage 2; Westcliff 1 Sudbury 0.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding 1 Warrington 2; Harrogate 0 Formby 1; Neston 2 Halifax 1; Southport 4 Sheffield Bankers 3; Timperley 1 Norton 4.

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier League: Anchorians 0 Oxford Hawks 2; Chichester 0 Ashford 3; Gore Court 2 Lewes 3; H Wycombe 2 O Wolcountians 1; O Kingstonians 3 Fareham 3; Spencer 1 Beckenham 2; Wimbledon 5 Lions 1; Woking 1 Bournemouth 0; Wokingham 2 Winchester 3; Newbury 1 Maidenhead 1. Hampshire/Surrey: Andover 1 Old Cranleighans 2; Barnes 2 Camberley 1; Basingstoke 3 Petersfield 2; Epsom 7 Old Edwardians 1; O Mid Whitgiftians 1 London Univ 3; Oxshott 5 Cheam 2; Solent HC 0 Blandford 3; Purley 2 Old Whitgiftians 3; Southampton 0 Oxted 2; Walton and Weybridge 0 Dulwich 3. Kent/Sussex: Bognor 6 Bexleyheath 2; Horsham 0 O Bordenians 0; Mid Sussex 4 Belvedere 3; O Beccehamians 3 Crawley 2; Old Holcombeians 2 Marden Russets 0; O Williamsonians 2 Middleton 2; Sevenoaks 1 Herne Bay 1; Tulse Hill 2 Bexley Invicta 3; Tunbridge Wells 2 Blackheath 1; Worthing 3 Brighton 1. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: 3 Bracknell 0; Eastcote 4 Headington 1; Harrow 1 Amersham 2; Hayes 0 Sunbury 1; HCC 2 ETESSA 3; Hendon 4 Staines 8; Marlow 3 PHC Chiswick 1; Mill Hill 2 Richings Pk 4; Milton Keynes 1 Remgerhia 5; NPL 0 OMT 4.

CAPE TOWN: Women's Olympic qualifying tournament: Argentina 1 China 2; South Africa 0 Great Britain 1 (Simpson); South Korea 1 Canada 0; Holland 3 Germany 2.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Clifton 2 Bracknell 0; Hightown 4 Doncaster 1; Leicester 1 Ipswich 1; Sutton CL 3 Slough 0. First division: Bluehearts 1 Bedans 3; Canterbury 1 Trojans 3; Exmouth 0 Bradford 0; Wimbledon 1 Chelmsford 3. Standings: 1 Trojans 21; 2 Canterbury 18; 3 Chelmsford 11. Second division: Aldridge 4 St Albans 2; Olton 2 Loughboro Students 0; Reading 1 Ealing 2; Woking 0 Sherwood 1. Standings: 1 Olton 21; 2 Students 10; 3 Sherwood 10.

REGIONAL LEAGUES: East: Bexleyheath 5 Saracens 1; Cambs C 2 Sevenoaks 2; Ipswich 0 Loughtonians 5; WGC 0 Harleston 2. Midlands: Kettering 1 Hampton 1; Leicester 0 Bedford 1; Peveril 2 Pickwick 2; Tamworth 0 Ramblers 0. North: Carlisle 0 Liverpool 2; Don Valley 2 Blackburn 3; Newcastle 0 York 2; Sheffield 1 Poynton 2. South: City of Portsmouth 2 Camberley 1; Dulwich 1 Hendon 0; Hampstead 2 Winchester 1; Southampton 2 Worthing 1; W Witney 4 Winchmore Hill 1. Standings: 1 W Witney 18; 2 Dulwich 17; 3 Portsmouth 13. West: Bournemouth 2 Cheltenham 2; Leominster 0 Wimborne 0; Redland 4 Colwall 1; St Austell 4 East Gloucester 0.

WOMENS CLUB MATCH: Cwmlawe 0 Penarth 2.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: Boston 2 Los Angeles 1; Philadelphia 4 Detroit 1; Chicago 5 Anaheim 4 (OT); Buffalo 1 NY Islanders 1 (OT); Hartford 4 Toronto 0; Tampa Bay 2 Washington 1; Edmonton 5 Calgary 2. Saturday: Washington 4 Hartford 2; Tampa Bay 2 NY Islanders 1; Detroit 2 NY Rangers 0; Colorado 2 Montreal 2; Pittsburgh 5 Buffalo 3; Dallas 2 New Jersey 0; Toronto 2 St Louis 2; Boston 3 Ottawa 3; San Jose 7 Vancouver 2.

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke 7 Fife 3; Milton Keynes 3 Sheffield 3; Nottingham 4 Cardiff 2; Slough 6 Humberside 11. First division: Bracknell 19 Billingham 0; Dumfries 4 Medway 3; Paisley 6 Blackburn 7; Swindon 10 Manchester 6; Telford 12 Murrayfield 4.

ICE SKATING

GELSENKIRCHEN, Germany: Nations Cup: Final standings: Men: 1, V Zagorodniuk (Ukr) 2.5pts; 2, A Urmanov (Russ) 3.0; 3, T Eldredge (US) 4.5. Women: 1, M Kwan (US) 1.5pts; 2, M Butyrskaya (Russ) 3.0; 3, N Bobek (US) 5.5. Ice Dance: 1, A Krilova and O Ovsiannikov (Russ) 2.0pts; 2, I Romanova and I Jaroshenko (Ukr) 4.0; 3, I Lobatsheva and I Averbush (Russ) 6.0.

LACROSSE

SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY SOCIETY: North Of England: Premier division: Cheadle 9 Heaton Mersey 14; Cheadle Hulme 5 Mellor 12; Timperley 11 Poynton 7; Sheffield S P Stockport P; Hulmeians 11 O Waconians 2.

SHEFFIELD: British Universities Sports Association Women's Tournament: Final standings: 1, Midlands; 2, South; 3, North; 4, Loxbridge; 5, Scotland; 6, Wales.

REAL TENNIS

QUEENS CLUB: Men's British Land Open Championship: Singles: Semi-finals: R Fahey (Aus) bt C Bray (GB) 5-6, 6-0, 2-6, 6-5, 6-1; L Deuchar (Aus) bt J Snow (GB) 6-2, 6-5, 1-6, 6-4.

ROWING

READING: British Indoor Championships: Men: Open: 1, M Siejkowski (Ger) 5min 46sec; 2, G Searle (Molesey) 5.50; 3, T Westerling (Eton) 6min. Lightweight: 1 A Gitlin (Nottingham) 6.26; 2 O Kingsbury (Oxford Univ) 6.30; 3 E Bell (Nottingham Univ) 6.35. Under 23: 1, L Atrill (Imperial Col) 6.01; 2, S Dawson-Bowling (Goldie) 6.05; 3, P Turner (Southampton Univ) 6.07. Junior: 1, T Westerling (Eton) 6.10; 2, B Panter (Kings Worcs) 6.17; 3 R Sanders (RGS Newcastle) 6.90. Senior: 1, A Collier (Nottingham Co) 6.07; 2, G Leach (Newark) 6.22; 3, S Parker (Upper Thames) 6.24. Senior Lightweight: 1, G Pratt (Newark) 6.37; 2, D Evans (Unattached) 6.47; 3, G Elgar (Unattached) 6.51. Women: Open: 1, S Winckless (Cambridge Univ) 6.58; 2, K Giles (Thames) 7.05; 3, H Day (Thames) 7.10. Lightweight: 1, N Halse (Bedford High) 7.24; 2 N Best (Thames) 7.28; 3 C Lloyd (Cambridge Univ) 7.37. Under 23: 1, V Broadhead (Oxford Univ) 7.10; 2, E Laverick (Thames) 7.11; 3, C Gosling (Cambridge Univ) 7.14. Junior: M Hirsch 7.32 (Lady Eleanor Holles) 7.58. Senior: 1 T Axten (The Arena) 7.11; 2, M Reichelt (Upper Thames) 7.31; 3, E McLean (Thames Tradesmen) 7.33. Senior Lightweight: T Roberts (Evesham) 7.37.

SCHOOLS SPORT

RUGBY UNION: Bedford 10 Haileybury 12; Bristol GS 19 Plymouth 8; Cheltenham 20 St Edward's, Oxford 7; City of London Freemens 42 Chislehurst and Sidcup 5; Colfes 23 Campion 12; Coopers Coborn 21 Enfield 7; Dulwich 46 Bedford Modern 15; Durham 41 RGS Newcastle 20; Eltham 27 Duke of York's, Dover 0; Exeter 5 Wellington, Somerset 15; Guildford RGS 10 St Paul's 42; Harrow 3 Radley 33; Hurstpierpoint 5 Cranbrook 18; Judd 3 Reigate 17; Kelly 104 Shebbear 5; King Edward's, Bath 5 Downside 7; King Edward's, Camp Hill 5 Hereford Cathedral 12; King's, Canterbury 3 Cranleigh 8; King's, Worcester 27 King Edward's, Aston 7; Langley Park 18 St Olave's 13; Loretto 6 Sedbergh 34; Marling 34 Monkton Combe 15; Monmouth 17 King's, Taunton 10; Nottingham HS 14 King Edward's, Birmingham 53; QEGS Barnet 3 Watford GS 21; Queen's, Taunton 10 Milton Abbey 5; RGS Guildford 10 St Paul's 42; St Bede's, Newbury 17 Lord Wandsworth 34; St Dunstan's 8 Sevenoaks 15; St Edward's, Liverpool 53 St Mary's 3; St John's, Leatherhead 10 King's, Wimbledon 13; St Peter's, York 53 Ashville 0; Seaford 3 Chichester HS 31; Stonyhurst 16 Hymers 15; Stowe 20 Pangbourne 13; Taunton 27 Blundell's 7; Tiffin 16 Desborough 8; Truro 34 West Buckland 3; UCS 25 Bishop's Stortford Col 0; Warwick 18 Rugby 13; Wellington, Berks 7 Tonbridge 12; Windsor 5 Wimbledon 33; Worth 3 John Fisher 48.

FOOTBALL: FA Premier League under-19 Trophy: Cleveland 1 Northumberland 3; South Yorkshire 4 North Yorkshire 2. FA Premier League under-16 Trophy: Cumbria 1 West Yorkshire 4; Leicestershire 1 Derbyshire 1; South Yorkshire 0 North Yorkshire 1. English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: Third round: Coventry 1 Derby 2; Liverpool 0 Middlesbrough 1; North Tyneside 1 Leeds 2; Warley 4 Cannock 0. English Eagles Trophy: Woking 1 North Kent 5. English Worrall Shield: Plymouth 0 West Cornwall 3. Arsenal Trophy Final 94/5: Islington 3 West London 4. London Corinthian Shield: Newham 5 Luton 2. Essex Birmingham Trophy: Barking 1 Havering 3. Middlesex Star Shield: Brent 1 Harrow 5. Shaw Cup: Cambridge 6 Yarmouth 0; West Suffolk 2 Lowestoft 4. Cheshire Senior Trophy: Halton 1 Kirkby Knowsley 2; Mid-Cheshire 0 Chester 1. Yorkshire Trophy: Hull 2 Sheffield 5. Middlesex Batchelor Cup: Harrow 5 Ealing 2. Inter Association: Bermondsey 0 Bexley 3; East Berks 0 Vale of White Horse 4; Hackney 5 Luton 5; Selton 1 Salford 1. Welsh Shield: Clwyd Coast 1 St Helens 9. Other match: Wellingborough 0 Highgate 4

SKIING

PARK CITY, Utah: Men's World Cup: Giant slalom: Combined totals: 1, M Von Gruenigen (Switz) 2min 27.48sec; 2, L Kjus (Nor) 2:27.50; 3, H Knauss (Austria) 2:28.93; 4, F Nyberg (Swe) 2:29.80; 5, C Mayer (Austria) 2:30.14; 6, J Kosir (Slove) 2:30.19.

Leading giant slalom standings: 1, Von Gruenigen 300pts; 2, Kjus 240; 3, Kaern 156; 4, Knauss 126; 5, Nyberg 116; 6, Kosir 90; 7, Locher 81. Leading overall world Cup standings: 1, Von Gruenigen 300pts; 2, Kjus 285; 3, U Kaelin (Switz) 156; 4, Kosir 130; 5, Knauss 126; 6, Nyberg 110; 7, A Aamodt (Nor) 103; 8, M Tritscher (Austria) 100; 9, A Tomba (It) 96; 10, S Locher (Switz) 81. Final nation's cup standings: 1, Austria 1,004pts; 2, Switzerland 924; 3, Norway 612; 4, Italy 419; 5, France 338.

VUOKATTI, Finland: Men's World Cup: Cross-country: 10km: Leading placings: 1, V Smirnov (Kaz) 26min 03.6sec; 2, B Daehlie (Nor) 26.09.7; 3, S Repo (Fin) 26:46.0; 4, J Muehlegg (Ger) 26:48.7; 5, A Prokurorov (Rus) 26:49.7.

SPEED SKATING

BERLIN: World Cup: Leading standings: Men: 1,500m: 1 M Hersman (Holl) 1min 54.25sec; 2, A Sondral (Nor) 1:54.6; 3 H Noake (Jpn) 1:54.82. Women: 500m: Second race: 1, S Shurova (Russ) 40.37sec; 2, S Auch (Can) 40.67; 3 C Le May (Can) 40.68.

SQUASH

KARACHI: Men's Pakistan Open Final: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt R Eyles (Aus) 15-9, 15-12, 15-8.

KPMG: Oxford and Cambridge University Match: Men: Oxford 3 Cambridge 2. Women Oxford 4 Cambridge 1.

CHICHESTER: SRA National League: Third round: Phillips Windows Chichester 5 Sigma Strings Swansea 0.

KINGSTON, Surrey: Womens Triangular Tournament: West London 7 Putney 1; West London 7 Purley 4; Putney 6 Purley 2.

TABLE TENNIS

LYON: French Open: Women: Singles: Third round: Li Ju (China) bt A Holt (Eng) 21-11, 21-18, 21-12.

TENNIS

EINDHOVEN, Holland: Men's World Doubles Championship: Semi-finals: G Connell (Can) and P Galbraith (US) bt T Woodbridge and M Woodforde (Aus) 7-6, 6-3; J Eltingh and P Haarhuis (Holl) bt C Suk and D Vacek (Cz) 6-3, 6-2.

VALENCIA: Women's Federation Cup: Finals: Singles: C Martinez (Sp) bt M J Fernandez (US) 6-3, 6-4; C Rubin (US) bt A Sanchez-Vicario (Sp) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4. Doubles: L Davenport and G Fernandez (US) bt V Ruano-Marra and A Sanchez (Sp) 6-3, 7-6. Final score: Spain 3 United States 2.

WATER POLO

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Penguin 15 Birkenhead 15; Polytechnic 13 Paragon 7; Nova 3 Bristol 10; Sutton 15 Cheltenham 8.

RUGBY UNION

Tour matches

Cambridge Univ 22 Western Samoa 14

Cambridge Univ: Tries: Cottrell, Waine. Pens: Ashforth 3. Dropped goal: Ashforth. Western Samoa: Try: Patu. Pens: Burns 2, Patu.

Leinster 15 Transvaal 6

Leinster: Pens: McGowan 5. Transvaal: Pens: Gillingham 2.
(at Donnybrook)

CIS Insurance divisional championship

Northern 18 London 9

Northern: Tries: Greenwood, Mallinder. Con: Liley. Pens: Liley 2. London: Pens: Gregory 3.
(at Wakefield)

South West 11 Midlands 16

South West: Try: Fenley. Pen: King. Dropped goal: King. Midlands: Tries: Pountney, Slingsley. Pens: Quantrill 2.
(at Gloucester)

CIS county championship

Midlands

Warwickshire 37 Notts, Linc & Derby 3

Warwickshire: Tries: Ellis, Fontaine 2, Minshull, Riddlesdin, Warr. Cons: Evans 2. Pen: Evans. Notts, Lincs and Derby: Pen: Stoddart.
(at Rugby)

East Midlands 7 North Midlands 39

East Midlands: Try: J Wilkinson. Con: J Wilkinson. North Midlands: Tries: Dawson, Hopkins, Lewis, Woodworth 2. Cons: Pennington 4. Pens: Pennington 2.
(at Bedford)

North

Cheshire 26 Yorkshire 22

Cheshire: Tries: Blood 2. Cons: Swindells 2. Pens: Swindells 4. Yorkshire: Tries: Garnett, Overend 2, Smith. Con: Burnhill.
(at New Brighton)

Durham 30 Northumberland 16

Durham: Tries: Howe, Oliphant, Parnaby, Whitaker, penalty try. Con: Oliphant. Pen: Oliphant. Northumberland: Try: Clayton-Hibbott. Con: Belgian. Pens: Belgian 3.
(at Durham City)

Lancashire 27 Cumbria 20

Lancashire: Tries: Kendall, Monaghan, penalty try. Cons: Gough 3. Pens: Gough 2. Cumbria: Tries: Branthwaite, Richardson, Warwick. Con: Branthwaite. Pen: Branthwaite.
(at Manchester)

South

Dorset and Wilts 12 Berkshire 13

Dorset and Wilts: Tries: Iles, Tucker. Con: Graves. Berkshire: Try: Kerns. Con: Dance. Pens: Dance 2.
(at Dorchester)

Devon 14 Oxfordshire 20

Devon: Try: Chart. Pens: Thomson 3. Oxfordshire: Tries: McCullogh, Perkin, Swading. Con: Perkin. Pen: Perkin.
(at Torquay)

Hertfordshire 6 Gloucestershire 21

Hertfordshire: Pens: Ruding 2. Gloucestershire: Pens: Smith 7.
(at Hertford)

Middlesex 33 Hampshire 10

Middlesex: Tries: Clarke, Henderson, Turner 3. Con: R Davies. Pens: R Davies 2. Hampshire: Tries: Pinnock, Roach.
(at Old Merchant-Taylors)

Sussex 15 Kent 22

Sussex: Tries: Cook 2. Con: Broughton. Pen: Broughton. Kent: Tries: Evans 2, Welch. Cons: Tunnicliffe 2. Pen: Tunnicliffe.
(at Worthing)

Somerset 19 Eastern Co 12

Somerset: Tries: Harris, Pells, Withey. Cons: Reeman 2. Eastern Counties: Tries: D Cutting, Laws. Con: G Cutting.
(at Taunton)

Surrey 17 Cornwall 11

Surrey: Try: Carter. Pens: Hode 3. Dropped goal: Frost. Cornwall: Try: Andrew. Pens: Whitworth 2.
(at Richmond)

CIS under-21 county championship

North

Lancashire 39 Cumbria 10
Durham 10 Northumberland 21

South West

Dorset and Wilts 18 Berks 17
Gloucs 48 Devon 5
Somerset 26 Cornwall 3

South East

Hants 24 Eastern Co 10
Middlesex 49 Kent 22
Army 3 Surrey 49
Sussex 16 Herts 9

Irish inter-provincial championship

Exiles 28 Connacht 22

Exiles: Tries: Halpin, Henderson, Staples 2. Con: Corcoran. Pens: Corcoran 2. Connacht: Try: Mannion. Con: Elwood. Pens: Elwood 5.
(at Sunbury)

Ulster 14 Munster 10

Ulster: Try: Mackey. Pens: McCall 3. Munster: Try: Walsh. Con: Smith. Pen: Smith.
(at Ravenhill, Belfast)

Heineken League

First division

Aberavon 3 Newbridge 22

Aberavon: Pen: Watts. Newbridge: Tries: Derrick, G Taylor, Withers. Cons: Withers 2. Pen: Withers.

Cardiff 18 Newport 22

Cardiff: Pens: C John 6. Newport: Try: Thomas. Con: G Rees. Pens: G Rees 5.

Ebbw Vale 10 Bridgend 8

Ebbw Vale: Try: Watkins. Con: Hayward. Pen: Chapman. Bridgend: Try: Manning. Pen: Durston.

Llanelli 18 Neath 6

Llanelli: Tries: J Williams, Thomas. Con: McCarthy. Pens: McCarthy 2. Neath: Pens: Bridges 2.

Swansea 71 Abertillery 13

Swansea: Tries: A Williams 2, Harris 3, Simon Davies, Taylor 2, Thomas, Weatherley 2. Cons: A Williams 4, Harris 4. Abertillery: Try: Griffiths. Con: M Williams. Pen: M Williams. Dropped goal: K Price.

Treorchy 11 Pontypridd 9

Treorchy: Try: D Davies. Pen: Booth. Dropped goal: Booth. Pontypridd: Pens: Jenkins 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Cardiff	11	9	0	2	380	177	46	14	32
Pontypridd	10	8	0	2	322	154	36	11	27
Llanelli	10	7	0	3	294	150	39	12	26
Swansea	9	5	0	4	334	170	47	12	22
Bridgend	11	5	0	6	274	218	36	11	21
Neath	10	6	1	3	223	124	32	8	21
Newport	11	8	1	2	222	244	20	4	21
Newbridge	11	5	0	6	183	220	23	5	15
Ebbw Vale	11	5	0	6	188	266	19	2	12
Treorchy	10	1	0	9	170	330	20	4	6
Abertillery	11	2	0	9	157	439	15	2	6
Aberavon	11	1	0	10	154	409	16	3	5

Second division

Abercynon 17 Bonymaen 5

Abercynon: Tries: Cummings 2. Cons: Van Rensburgh 2. Pen: Van Rensburgh. Bonymaen: Try: M John.

Caerphilly 16 S W Police 12

Caerphilly: Tries: D Phillips, Hammond. Pen: Bolderson. Dropped goal: D Phillips. South Wales Police: Tries: Patterson, penalty try. Con: Price.

Cross Keys 46 Tenby Utd 0

Cross Keys: Tries: A Price, Bebb, Harris 2, Nicholls, Rees, Stroud. Cons: Bebb 4. Pen: Bebb.

Llanharan 11 Dunvant 50

Llanharan: Try: Jenkins. Pens: Morris 2. Dunvant: Tries: Butler, D Morgan, Greenwood, K Davies 2, Sutton, Wake, penalty try. Cons: Thomas 5.

Maesteg 28 Llandovery 23

Maesteg: Tries: H Lewis, Stephens, Watkin, penalty try. Con: Pearce. Pens: Pearce 2. Llandovery: Tries: C Davies, J Griffiths 2. Con: Lloyd-Jones. Pens: Lloyd-Jones 2.

Ystradgynlais 15 Pontypool 20

Ystradgynlais: Tries: Griffiths, Love. Con: Love. Pen: Love. Pontypool: Tries: Lynch, N Hope. Cons: Williams 2. Pens: Williams 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Dunvant	11	9	0	2	301	114	42	13	31
Pontypool	11	9	0	2	286	180	38	9	27
Caerphilly	11	8	0	3	196	160	23	5	21
Cross Keys	11	6	0	5	262	182	30	7	19
Bonymaen	11	5	0	6	226	219	24	6	16
Llandovery	11	7	0	4	183	172	17	2	16
Abercynon	11	6	0	5	179	178	21	3	15
Maesteg	11	5	0	6	177	207	20	3	13
S W Police	11	3	0	8	172	244	21	4	10
Ystradgynlais	11	3	0	8	164	217	18	2	8
Tenby Utd	11	3	0	8	139	291	16	2	8
Llanharan	11	2	0	9	182	303	17	2	6

THIRD DIVISION: Blaina 16 Builth Wells 16; Glamorgan Wndrs 18 Tondu 7; Narberth 15 Blackwood 15; Penarth 23 Cardiff Inst 27; Pyle 16 Mountain Ash 7; Tredegar 21 Kenfig Hill 6.

Tennents Premiership

First division

Boroughmuir 40 Heriots FP 40

Boroughmuir: Tries: Lineen 2, Tukalo 2. Cons: Easson 4. Pens: Easson 4. Heriots FP: Tries: C Glasgow, Gilmour 2, Laing. Cons: Rahui 4. Pens: Rahui 4.

Edinburgh Acads 15 Watsonians 28

Edinburgh Acads: Tries: Burns 2. Con: Duncan. Pen: Duncan. Watsonians: Tries: G Hastings, Garry, Stanaway. Cons: G Hastings 2. Pens: G Hastings 3.

Gala 24 Hawick 23

Gala: Tries: C Dalgleish, Weir. Con: G Dalgleish. Pens: G Dalgleish 4. Hawick: Tries: Suddon 2. Cons: Turnbull, Welsh. Pens: Turnbull, Welsh 2.

Stirling County 15 Melrose 15

Stirling County: Tries: Flockhart, Jardine. Con: M McKenzie. Pen: M McKenzie. Melrose: Tries: Chalmers, Joiner. Con: G Parker. Pen: G Parker.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melrose	13	8	1	4	295	188	17
Boroughmuir	13	7	2	4	313	268	16
Watsonians	13	7	1	5	354	264	15
Stirling Co	12	7	1	4	253	187	15
Hawick	13	7	0	6	237	249	14
Heriots FP	12	5	1	6	264	326	11
Edinburgh Ac	14	4	1	9	243	282	9
Gala	12	2	1	9	168	363	5

Second division

Currie 7 Jed-Forest 31

Currie: Try: Blair. Con: Mcmson. Jed-Forest: Tries: Barne, Brown 2, Kerr. Cons: Amos 4. Pen: Amos.

Dundee HSFP 38 West of Scotland 0

Dundee HSFP: Tries: Longstaff, McWhirter, Robinson, Rouse. Cons: Robinson 2. Pens: Robinson 4.

Kelso 40 Stewarts Mel FP 0

Kelso: Tries: A Roxburgh 2, Bennet, Jeffrey, Stewart. Cons: Aitchison 3. Pens: Aitchison 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Currie	14	11	0	3	357	266	22
Jed-Forest	14	10	0	4	302	185	20
GHK	14	8	0	6	375	239	16
W of Scotland	14	7	0	7	268	258	14
Dundee HSFP	14	6	0	8	259	239	12
Kelso	14	6	0	8	275	260	12
Selkirk	14	5	0	9	215	307	10
Stewarts Mel	14	3	0	11	193	490	6

THIRD DIVISION: Corstorphine 3 Biggar 64; Glasgow Acads 35 Peebles 12; Grangemouth 18 Preston Lodge 11; Kirkcaldy 50 Musselburgh 12.

FOURTH DIVISION: Edinburgh Wndrs 81 Wigtownshire 3; Glasgow Southern 15 Ayr 20; Gordonians 21 Langholm 6; Haddington 19 Kilmarnock 58.

CLUB MATCHES: Aspatria 37 Carlisle 3; Barking 5 Brentwood 11; Bath 17 Loughborough Students 19; Birmingham Solihull 27 Macclesfield 13; Blackheath 18 Fylde 15; Broughton Park 26 Manchester 22; Cheltenham 37 Birkenhead Park 7; Coventry 64 Exeter 6; Durham University 26 Oxford University 14; Havant 18 Sutton and Epsom 7; Henley 5 Basingstoke 9; Kendal 12 Wigton 6; Leeds 25 Bradford and Bingley 13; Leicester 36 Rugby 19; Liverpool St Helens 51 Preston Grasshoppers 7; London Welsh 28 Bedford 24; Met Police 33 Bridgwater 9; Morley 44 Hull Ionians 11; Newcastle Gosforth 51 Harrogate 5; North Walsham 22 Ipswich 3; Nuneaton 10 Vale of Lune 22; Otley 21 Wakefield 32; Reading 24 Bracknell 17; Rosslyn Park 11 Saracens 11; Rotherham 51 Lichfield 17; Sale 25 Moseley 19; Sheffield 19 West Pk Bramhope 7; Stoke 43 Burton 10; Stourbridge 31 Lydney 39; Walsall 28 Stroud 10; Waterloo 22 Orrell 8; West Hartlepool 35 Nottingham 20; London Irish 19 Wasps 39.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Regal Trophy

Third round

Saturday

London Broncos 18 Halifax 22

London Broncos: Tries: McKenna, Mestrov 2, Rea. Goal: Matterson. Halifax: Tries: John Bentley 2, John Schuster, Tuilagi. Goals: John Schuster 3. Att: 1,205.
(at Harlequins RFU)

Yesterday

Batley 22 Warrington 35

Batley: Tries: Moxon, Tomlinson, Walton. Goals: Parkinson 5. Warrington: Tries: Currier 2, Ford, Penny, Rudd, Southarpe. Goals: Iestyn Harris 5. Dropped goal: Mackey. Att: 1,754.

Dewsbury 14 Rochdale 26

Dewsbury: Tries: Bramald, G Bell. Goals: Conway 3. Rochdale: Tries: C Hilton, J Green, Mawdsley, Meadows, Pitt. Goals: Churm 3. Att: 927.

Huddersfield 0 Wigan 32

Wigan: Tries: Connolly 2, Farrell, Offiah, Robinson. Goals: Farrell 6. Att: 6,026.

Hull 26 St Helens 36

Hull: Tries: Dworty, Sterling, Vaikona 2. Goals: McNamara 5. St Helens: Tries: Hayes 2, Lyon, Perelini 2, Sullivan 2. Goals: Goulding 5. Att: 5,102.

Hunslet 17 Carlisle 22

Hunslet: Tries: Lee, Maea, Sharp. Goals: Close 2. Dropped goal: Brook. Carlisle: Tries: Manihera, Russell, Thurlow, Williams. Goals: Richardson 3. Att: 1,355.

Leeds 42 Bradford 26

Leeds: Tries: Cummins, Innes 2, Iro, Mann, Shaw. Goals: Cook 9. Bradford: Tries: Ellis, Hassan 2, Knox, McDermott, Simpson. Goals: Ellis 2. Att: 10,093.

Workington 8 Widnes 32

Workington: Tries: Johnson 2. Widnes: Tries: McCurrie, Ruane, Spruce 2, Thorniley. Goals: Tyrer 6. Att: 2,648.

Stones Championship

First division

Featherstone 60 Whitehaven 10

Featherstone: Tries: Jackson, Mackie, Molloy, Pearson 4, Rodger, Simpson. Goals: Pearson 12. Whitehaven: Tries: Doyle, Seeds. Goal: McGuire. Att: 1,569.

TRY SCORERS: 20: A Sullivan (St Helens). 19: M Offiah (Wigan). 18: S Ashcroft (Swinton).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Keighley	11	10	1	0	369	113	21
Salford	11	10	0	1	402	175	20
Widnes	12	9	1	2	325	194	19
Hull	12	7	0	5	385	230	14
Featherstone	13	7	0	6	290	288	14
Rochdale	12	5	1	6	213	298	11
Whitehaven	13	4	1	8	218	363	9
Batley	12	4	0	8	202	326	8
Wakefield	12	4	0	8	194	320	8
Huddersfield	12	3	0	9	263	325	6
Dewsbury	12	1	0	11	157	386	2

Second division

Bramley 17 York 15

Bramley: Tries: Blankley, Pickles 2. Goals: Creasser 2. Dropped goal: Long. York: Tries: Damian Ball, Hill, Laurence. Goal: Precious. Dropped goal: Dobson. Att: 500.

Doncaster 12 Leigh 38

Doncaster: Tries: Chappell, Mycock. Goals: Chappell 2. Leigh: Tries: Ball 2, Cheetham, Edwards, Hadcroft, Jason O'Loughlin, Pengo. Goals: Vaccoso 2, Wilkinson 3. Att: 1,174.

Hull K R 60 Highfield 6

Hull K R: Tries: C Brown, C Harrison, Eastwood, G Brown 2, Hoe, M Fletcher, O'Brien, Plange 3, Stewart. Goals: M Fletcher 6. Highfield: Try: Gary Holden. Goal: Fanning. Att: 1,258.

Swinton 18 Chorley 16

Swinton: Tries: Ashcroft, Else, Holliday. Goals: Else 3. Chorley: Tries: Bramwell 2, Clayton, Parker. Att: 667.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull K R	12	10	0	2	420	169	20
Carlisle	12	9	0	3	390	179	18
Swinton	12	9	0	3	369	158	18
Leigh	12	8	0	4	320	218	16
Bramley	11	6	0	5	263	237	12
York	11	5	0	6	238	215	10
Hunslet	9	5	0	4	184	166	10
Doncaster	12	4	0	8	231	370	8
Barrow	11	3	0	8	209	250	6
Chorley	10	3	0	7	147	344	6
Highfield	12	0	0	12	130	595	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Leigh Miners Welfare 29 Dudley Hill 6; Millom 16 Mayfield 30; West Hull 39 Egremont 12.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Saddleworth	9	8	0	1	216	97	16
Wigan St Pat	7	6	0	1	207	85	12
Lock Lane	11	6	0	5	169	206	12
Heworth	5	5	0	0	158	70	10
Woolston	6	5	0	1	113	74	10
West Hull	7	4	0	3	187	134	8
Mayfield	9	4	0	5	130	139	8



Michael Whitaker, of Great Britain riding Everest Midnight Madness jumps a clear round to win the Volvo World Cup qualifier in Berlin. He beat Franke Sloothaak, of Germany riding Patrignano Weihaiwej, by 1.58 sec

GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket match*

FA Carling Premiership
Nottingham Forest v Man Utd (8.0)

Auto Windscreens Shield
Northern Section
Second round
Doncaster v Notts County

Vauxhall Conference
Hednesford v Stalybridge (7.45)

ICIS LEAGUE: Carlton Trophy: Second round: Tring v Tilbury. Carlton Cup: Bognor Regis v Worthing; Carshalton v Chertsey/Yeovil.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Winsford v Knowsley. President's Cup: First round: Ashton United v Buxton; Guiseley v Blyth Spartans. President's Cup: First round: Ashton United v Buxton; Guiseley v Blyth Spartans.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristol Rovers v Ipswich; Chelsea v Charlton (at Kingstonian F C, 7.0); Millwall v Brighton (2.0); Tottenham v West Ham (at St. Albans F C).

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Birmingham C Res v Bolton (7.0); Everton v Sheffield United (7.0); Newcastle v Liverpool (at Gateshead F.C., 7.0).

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Taunton v Westbury.

FA YOUTH CUP: Second Round Proper: Coventry v Arsenal; Barnet v Watford.

RUGBY UNION

Club matches
Moseley v Vaal Triangle (SA) (8.0)

OTHER SPORT

RACING: Kelso (1.0); Wolverhampton (AW, 2.10); Worcester (12.50).

SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (Preston).

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

COCA-COLA CUP: Fourth round: *Reading v Southampton (7.45)

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD: Second round, Northern section: Chesterfield v Rochdale; Hull v Blackpool; Lincoln v Preston; Rotherham v Wigan; Scunthorpe v York; Wrexham v Carlisle. Southern section: Brentford v Fulham (7.45); Bristol Rovers v Bournemouth; Cardiff v Northampton; Oxford United v Colchester (7.45); Peterborough v Swansea (7.45); Shrewsbury v Bristol City; Walsall v Brighton (7.45).

RUGBY UNION

HEINEKEN CUP: Pool B: Cardiff v Ulster (7.15)

TOUR MATCH: Newcastle v Transvaal (7.30).

CIS INSURANCE UNDER-21 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Midlands semi-finals: North Midlands v Staffordshire (at Stourbridge, 7.30). North: Cheshire v Yorkshire (at Sale, 7.15).

CLUB MATCHES: Pontypool v Cardiff (7.0); Pontypridd v Maesteg (7.0); South Wales Police v Aberavon (7.0).

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: CIS Insurance Scottish Masters (Coatbridge)

RACING: Fontwell Park (1.15), Newcastle (12.30)

SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (Preston).

WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL

COCA-COLA CUP: Fourth round: Arsenal v Sheffield Wednesday (7.45); Aston Villa v Queens Park Rangers (7.45); Leeds v Blackburn (7.45); Liverpool v Newcastle (7.45); Middlesbrough v Birmingham (7.45); Norwich v Bolton (7.45); Wolverhampton v Coventry (7.45).

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD: Second round: Northern section: Crewe v Burnley. Southern section: Swindon v Hereford (7.45)

RUGBY UNION

CIS INSURANCE SERIES TOUR MATCH: London and South East v Western Samoa XV (at Twickenham, 2.0)

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Royal Navy v New Zealand Army (at Rectory Ground, 7.30).

CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University v Steele-Bodger's XV (3.0). Treorchy v Fairwater (7.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 7.30

STONES CHAMPIONSHIP: Sheffield v St Helens, Warrington v Leeds, Workington v Castleford. First division: Batley v Salford, Dewsbury v Keighley, Huddersfield v Wakefield, Rochdale v Hull. Second division: Carlisle v York; Chorley v Leigh; Highfield v Barrow; Hull K R v Doncaster; Swinton v Bramley

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Thames Valley v Sheffield (7.15). 7UP Trophy: Quarter-final, second leg: Birmingham v Chester (7.30).

BOWLS: CIS Insurance Scottish Masters (Coatbridge).

BOXING: European bantamweight championship: Johnny Armour (Chatham, holder) v Redha Abbas (Fr) (York Hall, Bethnal Green). British flyweight championship: Francis Ampofo (Bethnal Green, holder) v Robbie Regan (Cardiff) (Cardiff).

RACING: Catterick Bridge (1.0); Hereford (12.50), Lingfield (AW, 1.10).

SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (Preston)

THURSDAY

BASKETBALL: 7UP Trophy: Quarter-final, second leg: Derby v Worthing (8.0).

RACING: Lingfield (AW, 1.15), Leicester (1.0), Windsor (1.10).

SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (Preston)

FRIDAY

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES CHAMPIONSHIP: Bradford v Oldham (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

RACING: Exeter (1.20), Sandown Park (12.50), Southwell (AW, 1.10).

SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (Preston)

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Aston Villa v Arsenal; Blackburn v West Ham; Bolton v Nottingham Forest; Leeds v Manchester City; Liverpool v Southampton; Manchester United v Chelsea; Queens Park Rangers v Middlesbrough; Tottenham v Everton

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Derby v Sheffield United; Grimsby v Charlton; Leicester v Barnsley; Luton v Tranmere; Millwall v Watford; Norwich v Stoke; Port Vale v Huddersfield; Portsmouth v Oldham; Reading v West Bromwich; Southend v Birmingham. Second division: Burnley v Carlisle; Swansea v Rotherham. Third division: Doncaster v Exeter

FA CUP: Second round: Crewe v Mansfield; Bournemouth v Brentford; *Barrow v Wigan; Blackpool v Colwyn Bay; Bradford v Preston (5.0); *Cinderford T v Gravesend and Northfleet; Fulham v Brighton; Hereford v Sutton United; Wrexham v Chesterfield; Enfield v Woking; Oxford United v Northampton; Peterborough v Bognor Regis; Rochdale v Darlington; Scunthorpe v Shrewsbury; Stockport v Blyth Spartans; Swindon v Cardiff; Telford v Notts County; Torquay v Walsall; Gillingham v Hitchin

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Altrincham v Runcorn; Dagenham and Red v Welling; Dover v Kettering; Gateshead v Hednesford; Halifax v Bromsgrove; Kidderminster v Bath; Morecambe v Southport; Stalybridge v Slough; Stevenage v Macclesfield.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Celtic v Kilmarnock; Falkirk v Raith; Hearts v Rangers; Motherwell v Hibernian; Partick v Aberdeen. First division: Airdrie v St Johnstone; Dundee United v Dumbarton; Dunfermline v Hamilton; Greenock Morton v Clydebank; St Mirren v Dundee. Second division: Ayr v Queen Of South; East Fife v Berwick; Montrose v Stenhousemuir; Stirling v Forfar; Stranraer v Clyde. Third division: Albion v Brechin; Alloa v Queen's Park; Arbroath v Cowdenbeath; Caley This v East Stirling; Livingston v Ross County

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 2.30 unless stated

TOUR MATCHES: Munster v Transvaal (at Cork); Midlands v Western Samoa XV (at Leicester, 3.0).

CIS INSURANCE DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: London v South West (at Sunbury)

CIS INSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Midlands: Pool two: North Midlands v Staffordshire (at Stourbridge). North: Cheshire v Durham (at Wilmslow, 2.15); Cumbria v Yorkshire (at Aspatria, 2.15); Northumberland v Lancashire (at Tynedale, 2.0). South: Pool one: Berkshire v Buckinghamshire (at Maidenhead, 2.15). Pool two: Devon v Hertfordshire (at Plymouth); Oxfordshire v Gloucestershire (at Banbury). Pool three: Kent v Hampshire (at Blackheath); Sussex v Middlesex (at Lewes, 2.15). Pool four: Cornwall v Eastern Counties (at Camborne); Surrey v Somerset (at Imber Court, 2.15).

CIS INSURANCE UNDER-21 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: North: Cheshire v Durham (at Altrincham Kersal, 2.15).

INTER-PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP: Connacht v Ulster (at Galway); Exiles v Leinster (at Sale, 3.0).

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: First division: Aberavon v Newport; Cardiff v Bridgend; Ebbw Vale v Pontypridd; Llanelli v Swansea; Neath v Treorchy; Newbridge v Abertillery. Second division: Abercynon v Cross Keys; Bonymaen v Ystradgynlais; Caerphilly v Llandovery; Llanharan v Pontypool; Maesteg v Dunvant; South Wales Police v Tenby United.

TENNENTS PREMIERSHIP: First division: Melrose v Gala (2.0); Stirling County v Boroughmuir (2.0); Watsonians v Hawick (2.0)

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: European Cross-Country Championships (Alnwick).

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Leicester v Thames Valley (7.30); Newcastle v Leopards (7.30); Birmingham v Hemel (7.30); Worthing v Derby (8.0).

BOXING: World Boxing Council bantamweight championship: Wayne McCullough (Belfast, holder) v Johnny Bredahl (Den) (King's Hall, Belfast).

ICE HOCKEY: Benson And Hedges Cup Final: Nottingham v Sheffield (Sheffield, 7.0)

RACING: Chepstow (1.0); Sandown Park (12.50); Towcester (12.55); Wetherby (12.40); Wolverhampton (AW, 1.50)

SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (Preston).

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Wimbledon v Newcastle (4.0)

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Sunderland v Crystal Palace (2.55); Wolverhampton v Ipswich (2.55)

FA CUP: Second round: *Kingstonian v Plymouth (1.30)

RUGBY UNION

CIS INSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Midlands: Pool one: Notts, Lincs and Derbyshire v Leicestershire (at Newark, 2.30).

CIS INSURANCE UNDER-21 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: North: Cumbria v Yorkshire (at Kendal, 2.0). South West: Pool one: Buckinghamshire v Dorset and Wiltshire (at Aylesbury, 2.15). South East: Pool one: Kent v Eastern Counties (at Westcombe Park, 2.15). Pool two: Hertfordshire v Surrey (at Cheshunt, 2.15)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

STONES CHAMPIONSHIP: Halifax v Leeds; London Broncos v Wigan (at Brentford FC, 7.05); St Helens v Workington; Warrington v Sheffield. First division: Dewsbury v Rochdale; Salford v Huddersfield; Wakefield v Keighley (3.30); Whitehaven v Batley (3.30); Widnes v Featherstone. Second division: Bramley v Carlisle; Doncaster v Swinton; Hunslet v Hull K R (3.30); Leigh v Highfield; York v Chorley (3.15)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: London v Chester (5.0); Thames Valley v Newcastle (6.0). 7UP Trophy: Quarter-final, second leg: Sheffield v Manchester (6.15)

SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship (Preston)

RACING

NEWBURY

Going: soft (heavy last two races)

12.45 (2m 4f ch) 1, Major Summit (S McNeill, 9-2); 2, Barude Not To ([illegible] fav); 3, Castle Court (12-1). 4 ran. Sh hd, dist. J Gifford. Tote: £5.50. DF: £2.20. CSF: £6.84.

1.15 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Kiltone Abbot (J Osborne, 9-2); 2, Mouse Bird (8-1); 3, Kissair (3-1 fav). 7 ran. NR: Storpin. 20l, hd. J Old. Tote: £5.70; £2.90, £[illegible].00. DF: £39.40. CSF: £54.91.

1.50 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Conquering Leader (J R Kavanagh, 4-5 fav; Richard Evans's nap); 2, Island Jewel (10-1); 3, Simpson (9-2). 7 ran. NR: Silver Wedge. Nk, 4l. N Henderson. Tote: £2.20; £1.5[illegible], £6.90. DF: £37.20. CSF: £25.28.

2.25 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Couldnt Be Better (D Gallagher, 15-2); 2, Rough Quest (4-1); 3, Superior Finish (9-1). Earth Summit 3-1 fav. 11 ran. NR: One Man, Young Hustler. 14l, ½l. C Brooks. Tote: £8.00; £2.5[illegible], £2.20, £2.00. DF: £25.80. Trio: £53.7[illegible]. CSF: £36.62. Tricast: £251.65.

3.00 (2m 1f ch) 1, Front Street (J Osborne, 11-10 fav); 2, Gales Cavalier (9-4); 3, Seven Of Diamonds (8-1). 4 ran. NR: Easthorpe, Time Won't Wait. 3l, 3½l. S Sherwood. Tote: £2.10. DF: £2.10. Trio: £26.80. CSF: £3.81.

3.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Shahar (W Marston, 3-1; Thunderer's nap and Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Flight Lieutenant (2-1 fav); 3, Scarlet Rambler (14-1). 13 ran. NR: Iggins, Headwind, New Albion, Nothing To It, Show Faith. 3l, 4l. D Nicholson. Tote: £3.20; £2.00, £1.80, £3.80. DF: £3.90. CSF: £10.13.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £13,[illegible]23.23 carried forward to Worcester today).

Placepot: £1,150.20. Quadpot: £[illegible]1.30.

NEWCASTLE

Going: good

12.40 (2m hdle) 1, Elation (B Harding, 6-1); 2, Done Well (5-1); 3, Ralitsa (10-1). Executive Design 8-11 fav. 24 ran. NR: Meadow Foods. 1l, nk. G Richards. Tote: £5.70; £2.20, £2.60, £18.80. DF: £11.90. Trio: £240.10. CSF: £36.31.

1.10 (3m hdle) 1, Bold Account (N Bentley, 20-1); 2, Funetto (3-1); 3, Tico Gold (8-1). Chopwell Curtains Evens fav. 13 ran. 8l, 7l. G Moore. Tote: £40.70; £4.10, £1.90, £1.60. DF: £78.20. Trio: £160.10. CSF: £87.6[illegible].

1.40 (2m 4f ch) 1, Easby Joker (P Niven, 4-6 fav); 2, Strong Sound (7-2); 3, Down The Road (9-4). 3 ran. NR: Beaucadeau, Front Line, Rupples. 30l, 20l. S Kettlewell. Tote: £1.60. DF: £2.90. CSF: £3.08.

2.10 (3m hdle) 1, High Padre (F Leahy, 6-1); 2, Fiveleigh Builds (6-1); 3, Deep Decision (16-1); 4, Emerald Storm ([illegible]-2 fav). 16 ran. NR: Boarding School. 2l, 4l. J Fitzgerald. Tote: £6.70; £2.30, £2.30, £2.80, £1.60. DF: £45.60. Trio: £181.3[illegible]. CSF: £40.80. Tricast: £517.38.

2.40 (2m hdle) 1, Padre Mio (Richard Guest, 5-1); 2, Chief Minister (15-[illegible] fav); 3, Non Vintage (25-1). 7 ran. ½l, ½l. C Brooks. Tote: £6.30; £3.30, £1.50. DF: £10.[illegible]0. CSF: £15.11.

3.10 (2m 4f ch) 1, Seven Towers (P Niven, 3-1); 2, McGregor The Third (4-9 fav); 3, Mr Fudge (14-1). 6 ran. NR: Biltsbrook. 6l, dist. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £3.30; £1.10, £1.10. DF: £1.70. CSF: £4.58.

3.40 (2m hdle) 1, Thornton Gate (L Wyer, 5-2 fav); 2, Native Field (12-1); 3, Sunday News'n'echo (33-1). 11 ran. 2½l, 2½l. M H Easterby. Tote: £3.10; £1.60, £3.80, £7.10. DF: £38.00. Trio: £525.00. CSF: £31.88. Tricast: £762.58.

Placepot: £42.30. Quadpot: £6.90.

HAYDOCK PARK

1.10 1, Viardot (5-2); 2, Nordic Valley (6-4 fav); 3, Persian View (5-2). 6 ran.

1.40 1, Tothewoods (10-11 fav); 2, Persian Tactics (7-4); 3, Civine (25-1). 4 ran.

2.15 1, Scotton Banks (7-2); 2, Veleda II (7-2); 3, Pink Gin (12-1). Ghia Gneuiagh 6-4 fav. 5 ran. NR: Far Senior.

2.45 1, The Last Fling (7-1); 2, Runaway Pete (3-1 fav); 3, Afaddeer (8-1). 9 ran.

3.15 1, Sailor Jim (100-30); 2, River Red (12-1); 3, Sartonus (9-2). Drumstick 11-4 fav. 8 ran.

3.45 1, Hoodwinker (3-1); 2, Dukes Meadow (4-7 fav); 3, Pebble Beach (8-1). 6 ran.

WARWICK

12.30 1, Ca Khoumf (Evens fav); 2, Rival Bid (7-1); 3, Mr Percy (14-1). 10 ran.

1.00 1, Bell Staffboy (11-2); 2, Celibate (5-4 fav); 3, Mister Drum (6-1). 5 ran. NR: Sesame Seed.

1.35 1, Destiny Calls (1-2 fav); 2, Bone Setter (15-8); 3, Precious Wonder (33-1). 4 ran.

2.05 1, Gilpa Valu (5-2 fav); 2, Equity Player (5-1); 3, The Bud Club (11-2). 9 ran.

2.35 1, Antiace (9-2 jt-fav); 2, Woree Wonder (12-1); 3, Star Manager (9-2 jt-fav). 12 ran. NR: Valsky.

3.05 1, Mr Felix (2-1); 2, Nobley (13-8 fav); 3, Nathir (20-1). 4 ran.

3.35 1, Buster Bob (8-1); 2, Knightsbridge Scot (13-2); 3, Donham Hill (7-2). Tompotoo 4-5 fav. 9 ran.

LINGFIELD PARK

11.50 1, Dancing Lawyer (7-2); 2, Nouwest (3-1 jt-fav); 3, Bagshot (3-1 jt-fav). 9 ran.

12.20 1, Granique (10-1); 2, The Little Ferret (100-30); 3, Shabanaz (Evens fav). 9 ran.

12.50 1, Dancing Jack (14-1); 2, Midnight Cookie (14-1); 3, Beeny (15-2). Goldsearch 3-1 fav. 10 ran.

1.20 1, Awesome Power (7-4 fav); 2, Swynford Flyer (20-1); 3, Labudd (3-1). 7 ran. NR: Ela-Ment.

1.55 1, Thorntoun Estate (11-4 fav); 2, Sterling Fellow (9-2); 3, Sahhar (9-2). 14 ran.

2.25 1, Old Hook (15-2); 2, Field Of Vision (3-1); 3, Hawaii Storm (6-1). Perilous Plight 13-8 fav. 8 ran.

2.55 1, Southern Dominion (7-1); 2, Mister Fire Eyes (14-1); 3, Chewit (12-1). Agwa 7-4 fav. 14 ran.

3.25 1, Opera Buff (7-4 fav); 2, Exhibit Air (7-2); 3, Yougo (25-1). 11 ran.

هكذا من الاصل 1150

صكذا من الاصل

Treating self-supply as a taxable transaction

Robert Gordon's College v Customs and Excise Commissioners

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead, Lord Steyn and Lord Hoffmann

[Speeches November 16]

Articles 5.7(a) and 6.3 of the Sixth Council Directive of May 17, 1977 (77/388/EEC), on the harmonisation of the laws of the member states relating to turnover taxes, permitted that the self-supply of goods or services should be treated as a taxable transaction where, had the goods or services been acquired from a third person, the value-added tax on them would not have been wholly deductible.

The hypothesis, "had the goods or services been acquired from a third person", only applied where goods or services were brought into existence by the taxpayer.

Under paragraphs 5 and 6 of Schedule 6A to the Value Added Tax Act 1983, as inserted by paragraph 6(2) of Schedule 3 to the Finance Act 1989, in order to ascertain a self-supply charge, it was not permissible to look back up the chain of supply so as to take a global view of series of transactions and to start from the beginning of the series of transactions but each transaction should be looked at separately.

The House of Lords so held allowing an appeal by the taxpayer, Robert Gordon's College, from an interlocutor dated June 2, 1994 of the Second Division of the Court of Session in Scotland (Lord Ross, Lord Justice Clerk, Lord McCluskey and Lord Penrose) (*The Times* September 6, 1994; [1994] STC 698) whereby the court, on an appeal from the Customs and Excise Commissioners, reversed the decision dated March 2, 1993 of the Value-Added Tax Tribunal (Mr William C. Hogg, chairman, Mrs G. Pritchard and Mr E.D. Walker) to the effect that paragraph 6(1) of Schedule 6A to the 1983 Act did not apply and that the self-supply charge was not activated.

Mr David Milne, QC and Mr Colin Tyre, both of the Scots Bar, for the college; Mr D. R. A. Emslie, QC and Mr J. R. Campbell, both of the Scots Bar, for the commissioners.

LORD HOFFMANN said that the college, an independent school in Aberdeen, carried on the business of providing educational services. In 1990-91 it constructed new playing fields and ancillary buildings on land near the college at Countesswells.

The charges made by the contractors for their services and materials were subject to VAT. But the services supplied by the college were educational and therefore exempt. Consequently, the college's ordinary business had no output tax from which the tax on the cost of the works could be deducted.

The college incorporated a subsidiary company called Countesswells Playing Fields Ltd and granted it a lease of the playing fields and buildings for 12 years in return for a premium of £187,000 and an annual rent of £30,000.

In return the company gave the college a licence to use the premises in return for an annual licence fee. The licence was not exclusive. The company retained the right to exploit the property by charging fees for its use by other organisations.

The college was thereby enabled to use the property for the primary purpose originally intended, namely for the provision of educational services to its pupils. Such user began at the end of 1991.

The grant of an interest in land or a licence to occupy it, other than a fee simple in new buildings, was exempt from VAT. Thus the grantor could not recover the input tax he had to pay.

But under paragraph 2 of Schedule 6A to the 1983 Act, the exemption could be waived. That waiver brought such a grant or licence to occupy into charge to tax at the standard rate. The grantor could deduct his input tax.

The college elected to waive exemption on the grant of the lease to the company and the company elected to waive exemption on the grant of the licence to the college.

It was common ground that the effect of those transactions was that the college became taxable at the standard rate on the premium and rent payable by the company, but was entitled to deduct the whole of the input tax payable on the construction works.

The company in turn was liable to tax on the licence fee paid by the college. Against that tax there could be no deduction because the college used the property under the licence for the purpose of its educational activities, that is, for the purpose of making exempt supplies.

The commissioners said that a further charge to tax on the college was triggered when, after the grant of lease and licence, the college began to use the playing fields for its educational purposes.

They said that when that event took place, the effect of paragraphs 5 and 6 of Schedule 6A was that the college was deemed to have supplied itself with its interest in the land and buildings for the purposes of its business.

That meant the tax was payable on the whole value of the land and buildings and, since the business for which the supply was deemed to have been made was educational, no input tax would thereafter be deductible.

The imposition of a self-supply charge to avoid market distortion was authorised by the Sixth Directive. Title II, article 2 provided that "1 The supply of goods ... effected for consideration" and "2 The importation of goods" was to be subject to VAT.

But Title V, article 5.7 provided that member states might "treat as supplies made for consideration (a) the application by a taxable person for the purposes of his business of goods produced, constructed, extracted, processed, purchased or imported in the course of such business, where the value added tax on such goods, had they been acquired from another taxable person, would not be wholly deductible..."

Article 6.3 provided: "In order to prevent distortion of competition and subject to the consultations provided for in article 29, member states may treat as a supply of services for consideration the supply by a taxable person of a service for the purposes of his undertaking where the value added tax on such a service, had it been supplied by another taxable person, would not be wholly deductible".

It was common ground that the Sixth Directive was directly applicable and binding on the commissioners so that they could not rely, as against the taxpayer, on inconsistent domestic legislation.

In *BLP Group plc v Customs and Excise Commissioners* (Case C-4/94) ([1995] STC 424, 430) Mr Advocate-General Lenz discussed the general scheme contemplated by Community legislation on VAT. He said that it proceeded from an ideal image of chains of transactions intended to attach to each transaction only so much VAT liability as corresponded to the added value accruing in that transaction, so that there was to be deducted from the total amount the tax which had been occasioned by the preceding link in the chain.

The court emphasised (at p437) that each transaction in the chain must be examined separately to ascertain objectively what output tax was payable and what input tax was deductible.

Articles 5.7(a) and 6.3 permitted the self-supply of goods or services to be treated as a taxable transaction in a case in which, had the goods or services been acquired from the third person, the VAT on them would not have been wholly deductible.

The hypothesis, "had the goods or services been acquired from the third person", was capable of being applied only if the goods or services had not in fact been acquire from a third person but had been brought into existence by the taxpayer himself.

If the goods or services had been acquired from a third person, then the question of whether or not the input tax payable on that acquisition was deductible was determined in the ordinary way, that is, according to whether it could be attributed to a taxable supply.

In the present case, the use which the college made of the playing fields was pursuant to services, that is, the licence, supplied to it by a third party, that is, the company. It followed that there could be no room for a self-supply charge within the terms of the Sixth Directive.

In the Court of Session, the Lord Justice Clerk had dealt with that problem by going back up the chain of supply and taking into account the fact that the college had originally developed the land and then granted the lease of the company. He had said (at p706) that the question of input tax had to be looked at against the totality of the transactions involving the development.

At the time of his interlocutor, the Lord Justice Clerk did not have the benefit of the judgment in the *BLP Group* case, where it was made clear that for the purposes of European VAT legislation, it was not permissible to take a global view of a series of transactions in the chain of supply.

It was true that the college did make exempt supplies, but the whole of the expenditure on the works was attributable to the taxable supply to the company and the input tax on that expenditure was, therefore, fully deductible from the taxable supply to the company.

Lord Keith, Lord Lloyd, Lord Nicholls and Lord Steyn agreed.

Solicitors: Clyde & Co for Paull & Williamsons, Edinburgh; Solicitor, Customs and Excise for Shepherd & Wedderburn, WS, Edinburgh.

Entitlement to sell car is a condition

Barber v NWS Bank plc

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Sir Roger Parker

[November 17]

A term in a conditional sale agreement relating to a car, to the effect that the seller was at the date of the agreement the owner of the vehicle, was to be construed as a condition, rather than a warranty or innominate term.

Where, therefore, some 19 months after delivery the purchaser discovered that the car was subject to a prior finance agreement he was entitled to rescind the agreement with the finance company and recover the deposit and instalments of the purchase price paid.

That was so notwithstanding that section 27 of the Hire Purchase Act 1964 protected a private purchaser in such circumstances, since subsection (6) of that section provided that nothing in the section should exonerate the finance company from any liability under which it would have been apart from the section.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by the plaintiff purchaser, Mr Barry William Barber, from the order made on April 23, 1993 by Sir Gervase Sheldon, sitting in the Queen's Bench Division, allowing an appeal by the defendant finance company, NWS Bank plc, against Master Creighmore's order of March 8, 1993 that the plaintiff be at liberty to sign judgment for £6,850.58, being the total of deposit and instalments paid, and for damages and interest to be assessed.

The Court of Appeal restored the master's order and dismissed the finance company's counterclaim for delivery of the car, arrears of £1,522.17 and interest.

In October 1989 the plaintiff agreed with a dealer to buy a Honda Accord car. The dealer sold the car to a finance company, the bank, which agreed to sell it to the plaintiff under a conditional sale agreement. In May 1991 the plaintiff decided to sell the car with a view to paying off the bank out of the proceeds, whereupon it was revealed that the car was subject to a prior finance agreement with another finance company.

In August 1991 the plaintiff purported to rescind the conditional sale agreement. Thereafter, by summons under Order 14A of the Rules of the Supreme Court the plaintiff sought determination of, inter alia, two questions of law and construction:

(a) whether it was an express and/or implied condition of the agreement that the bank was at the date of the agreement the owner of the car;

(b) whether in the events that had happened the plaintiff was entitled to rescind the agreement and to demand repayment of all moneys paid thereunder.

Mr Nicholas Strauss, QC and Mr David Walbank for the purchaser; Mr Iain Milligan, QC and Mr Michael Wood for the finance company.

SIR ROGER PARKER said that although in the course of argument Mr Milligan had accepted that the term set out in question (a) was an express term of the agreement, before an answer could be given it had to be determined whether the term was a condition, breach of which would give a right to rescind, as Mr Strauss contended, or only a warranty or innominate term, breach of which would give only a right to recover proved damages, as Mr Milligan contended.

In his Lordship's judgment, there could be no doubt but that the term was a condition. It was fundamental to the transaction that the bank had the property in the Honda at the time of the agreement and would retain it until paid in full the moneys due under the agreement.

Only on that basis could the agreement operate. His Lordship's conclusion followed the decisions in *Karflex Ltd v Poole* ([1933] 2 KB 251) and *Warman v Southern Counties Car Finance Corporation Ltd* ([1949] 2 KB 576). Those cases were not binding on the Court of Appeal but were plainly right.

The term was not one which admitted of different breaches, some of which were trivial, for which damages were an adequate remedy, and others of which were sufficiently serious to warrant rescission. There was in the instant case one breach only.

His Lordship would thus answer question (a), with the omission of the words "and/or implied", in the affirmative.

Turning to question (b), if the bank had no title, it necessarily followed that the plaintiff had been entitled to rescind and that the answer to the first part of the question had to be in the affirmative.

His Lordship rejected the bank's contention that the question whether the bank had or had not title required investigation at trial and could not be answered at that stage and concluded that the bank was in breach of the fundamental term and, subject to one point, that the plaintiff was entitled to rescind the agreement.

It was not inequitable in all the circumstances for the plaintiff to recover the full amount of the deposit and instalments from the bank.

The outstanding point was a last minute contention on behalf of the bank that it had a complete or partial answer to the claim by virtue of the provisions of section 27(3) of the Hire Purchase Act 1964.

Section 27(1) provided that the section should have effect where a motor vehicle had been let under a hire purchase agreement or had been agreed to be sold under a conditional sale agreement and before the property in the vehicle had become vested in the hirer or buyer he disposed of the vehicle to another person.

It appeared that in the instant case the initial hire purchaser had disposed of the vehicle to the dealer from whom the plaintiff had acquired it before the property had passed. The section therefore applied.

It further provided: "(3) Where the person to whom the disposition referred to in subsection (1) of this section is made (in this subsection referred to as 'the original purchaser') is a trade or finance purchaser, then if the person who is the first private purchaser of the motor vehicle after that disposition (in this section referred to as 'the first private purchaser') is a purchaser of the vehicle in good faith and without notice of the hire purchase agreement or conditional sale agreement, the disposition of the vehicle to the first private purchaser shall have effect as if the title of the owner or seller to the vehicle had been vested in the hirer or buyer immediately before he disposed of it to the original purchaser."

On the face of it, that appeared to apply to the facts of the case but subsection (6) provided: "Nothing in this section shall exonerate the hirer or buyer from any liability (whether criminal or civil) to which he would be subject apart from this section; and, in a case where the hirer or buyer disposes of the motor vehicle to a trade or finance purchaser, nothing in this section shall exonerate — (a) that trade or finance purchaser, or (b) any other trade or finance purchaser who becomes a purchaser of the vehicle and is not a person claiming under the first private purchaser, from any liability (whether criminal or civil) to which he would be subject apart from this section."

In the instant case, the hirer referred to was the intial hire purchaser of the car. The section was therefore not to exonerate it from any criminal or civil liability to which it would be subject apart from the section. Its disposition was to the dealer, a trade or finance purchaser.

Accordingly, nothing in the section was to exonerate it or any other trade or finance purchaser, in the instant case the bank, from any liability that it would have been under apart from the section.

The clear meaning of that was that if, apart from the section, the bank was liable to refund all the moneys paid to the plaintiff the section did not avail it. Its liability was unaffected.

That accorded with the clear object of the section, which was designed to protect private purchasers and those claiming under them, but not either the original hirer or buyer or any intervening trade or finance company from their full civil or criminal liabilities.

Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice Kennedy agreed.

Solicitors: Slaughter & May; Ms Kathryn Cook, Chester.

Specifying computer printout as an original document

Glencore International AG and Another v Bank of China

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Saville and Sir John Balcombe

[Reasons November 8]

In the context of modern technology, unless otherwise stipulated in a letter of credit, a bank would accept as an original a document produced or appearing to have been produced by reprographic, automated or computerised systems provided it was marked as original.

Where therefore such marking was not present on a beneficiary's certificate, created by photocopier, which under the terms of the credit was required to be an original, the document, irrespective of whether it was original, was discrepant and the issuing bank was entitled to refuse payment.

The Court of Appeal so held, giving reasons for dimissing, on October 25, an appeal by the plaintiffs, Glencore International AG and Bayerische Vereinsbank AG, from Mr Justice Rix who had concluded that the defendant, the Bank of China, was entitled to reject the beneficiary's certificates presented against payment on the ground that they had not been marked "original".

The defendant had alleged further discrepancies in respect of the commercial invoices and the packing lists also tendered for payment. The Court of Appeal affirmed the judge's decision rejecting the alleged non-compliance in respect of the packing lists; but reversed his conclusion that the commercial invoices were discrepant.

Under a contract for the sale of aluminium ingots between Glencore, as sellers, and Shan He Trade Co Ltd, as buyers, two letters of credit, expressed to be subject to the code in the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits (ICC Publication No 500) (1993 Revision), were opened by the bank payable against documents which included the beneficiary's certificates. The bank rejected, inter alia, those documents on the ground that they were neither original nor, as required by article 20(b) of the code, were marked original.

The certificates had been created by entering the relevant details into Glencore's computerised system and were printed on a laser printer. The printout was then photocopied, no distinction being drawn, in appearance or function, between the printout and the photocopy.

Since the certificates when first created bore details which were not required under the terms of the credit, those details were deleted by blanking them out and photocopying the printout. One photocopy was then signed for tender under each credit.

Mr Stephen Tomlinson, QC and Mr Dominic Kendrick for the plaintiffs; Mr Neville Thomas, QC and Mr Ali Malek for the defendant.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that practice in relation to payment under documentary credits in international sales transactions was generally governed by the Uniform Customs and Practice, a code of rules settled by experienced market professionals and kept under review to ensure that the law reflected the best practice and reasonable expectations of experienced market practitioners.

When courts, here and abroad, were asked to rule on questions such as the present they sought to give effect to the international consequences underlying the code.

The court referred to the basic rule that, save where the credit called for copies, original documents were required, and to the provisions of article 20(b), in particular, that banks would accept as an original document a document produced or appearing to have been produced by reprographic, automated or computerised systems, provided it was marked as original and, where necessary, appeared to be signed.

The article further provided that a document might be signed by handwriting, by facsimile signature, by perforated signature, by stamp, by symbol or by any other mechanical or electronic method of authentication.

An originally handwritten or originally typed document must, on any test, be an original and there was no reason why it should be marked as an original unless the letter of credit so stipulated.

The court rejected the plaintiffs' argument that the beneficiary's certificates were originals; that since they were indistinguishable from originals produced by word processor and laser printer bankers were entitled to treat them as such; and that the effect of the signature was to make them original if they were not already.

The court referred to article 13(a) of the code, from which it would seem plain that international standard banking practice could not override the express effect of the code.

As the argument had amply demonstrated, there was abundant room to debate what, in the context of modern technology, was an original document. A handwritten or typed document plainly was, but other documents could also be plausibly said to be so.

Article 20(b) was designed to circumvent that argument by providing a clear rule to apply in the case of documents produced by reprographic, automated or computerised systems. The sub-article required documents produced in a certain way, whether "original" or not, to be treated in a certain way.

It was understandable that those framing the rules should have wished to relieve issuing banks of the need to make difficult and fallible judgments on the technical means by which documents were produced. The beneficiary's certificates here might, in one sense, have been originals; but it was plain on the evidence that they were produced by one or other of the listed means and so were subject to the rule.

Even if it were true that the certificates did not appear to have been produced by one or other of those means, which had to be very doubtful, that made no difference if in fact they were the sub-article was clear in its reference to "documents produced, or appearing to have been produced..."

The original signature was a means of authenticating the certificates, and they were not required to be signed. But a signature on a copy did not make an original, it made an authenticated copy, and article 20(b) did not treat a signature as a substitute for a marking as "original", merely as an additional requirement in some cases.

The judge's comments, that the bank's argument was very technical and might appear to lack merit, were apt. But a rule of strict compliance gave little scope for recognising the merits.

To have marked the certificates "original", as other of the tendered documents were marked, would have been simple and without cost. There was no escape from what the court regarded as the plain language of the sub-article.

Solicitors: Clyde & Co; Pannone Pritchard Englefield.

Warning required on letter to rape complainant

Regina v Bethelmie

When at the trial of a defendant charged with rape and indecent assault the judge decided to admit in evidence a letter written by the defendant to the complainant, it was incumbent upon the judge to spell out its probative value and if there was a prejudicial element to give a direction about that.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Roch, Mr Justice Douglas Brown and Mr Justice Blofeld) so stated in a reserved judgment on November 20 giving reasons for allowing on November 14 the appeal of Luke Davis Bethelmie against his conviction on December 5, 1994 in the Central Criminal Court (Judge Capstick, QC and a jury) of rape and indecent assault.

MR JUSTICE BLOFELD said that it was submitted, inter alia, that the judge had failed properly to direct the jury as to the approach they should take when considering the letter.

In *R v Morris* (unreported, October 14, 1994, CA) Mr Justice Morland had said: "If such evidence is admitted it is incumbent upon the judge to spell out to the jury what its probative significance can be while making it clear to the jury that it is for them to decide whether it has or has not probative significance." The judge had failed to give such directions and on that and another ground of appeal the convictions would be quashed but there would be a retrial.

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Inspector can substitute term

W. E. Black Ltd v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another

Where there was evidence satisfying a planning authority that a development for which planning permission was sought would cause local flooding unless surface water attenuation and storage works were carried out, the authority was entitled to impose a condition on the grant of planning permission prohibiting implementation or occupation of the development until such works were carried out.

Mr Christopher Lockhart-Mummery, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge in the Queen's Bench Division so held on November 13, refusing an application by W. E. Black Ltd under section 288 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to quash the decision of an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment who on June 19 had allowed its appeal against a condition imposed by Harrow London Borough Council on a grant of planning permission.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the council had imposed a condition that attenuation/storage works should be implemented before the development commenced; since the houses were by then nearly complete the inspector substituted a condition prohibiting occupation until the works were carried out.

Such a condition did not involve duplication of other statutory controls and was not inconsistent with the scheme or objectives of the Water Industry Act 1991.

Trial of claim in absence of defendant

Berliner Bank v Karageorgis and Another

Before Mr Justice Colman

[Judgment October 20]

A plaintiff who sought a judgment which was likely to be enforceable outside the jurisdiction of the English courts, rather than judgment obtained under the automatic procedures provided by both Order 13 and Order 19 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, was entitled to invite the court to proceed to the trial of his claim, notwithstanding that he could by means of an automatic judgment obtain precisely the same judgment in the form which he would obtain as a result of a trial of the matter in open court.

It would be inappropriate that the court should decline to exercise its jurisdiction in such a case if there was material before it to suggest that a judgment obtained by the automatic method might well not be enforceable in foreign jurisdictions where the defendant was known to have assets or where there was a reasonable belief that he might have assets.

Mr Justice Colman so stated in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division when giving judgment on a claim by Berliner Bank against Mr Ioannis Karageorgis and Silver Carriers SS under guarantees provided in respect of certain banking facilities given by the bank to various shipowning companies in a group controlled by Mr Karageorgis and managed by Silver Carriers.

Mr Luke Parsons for the bank; the defendants did not appear and were not represented.

MR JUSTICE COLMAN said that after the defendants had been served with the writ in the present proceedings there was no acknowledgement of service.

The time for acknowledging service had expired and neither defendant had taken any steps directed to defending the claim.

The plaintiffs might have been expected to enter judgment in default of acknowledgement of service under Order 13, rule 1, which was the quick and necessarily automatic way to obtain judgment where the defendant had simply ignored the writ.

However, the plaintiff might well be in the position where the defendant was outside the jurisdiction of the English courts or at least where the defendant's assets were outside that jurisdiction. In those circumstances the plaintiff might well wish to have a judgment which he could enforce in overseas jurisdictions.

It was well known that default judgments such as one obtainable under Order 13 were in many cases effectively unenforceable outside the English courts' jurisdiction.

That was because the defendant had taken no part in the proceedings and, no doubt, because the court in giving judgment in that automatic way had not reviewed the merits of the claim, had not investigated the substance of the claim and had directed no judicial mind to whether in fact the plaintiff was entitled to recover.

The plaintiff in the present case, however, had invited the court to exercise a jurisdiction which involved the court hearing the plaintiff present the case, evaluating the evidence and in effect conducting a trial of the claim without the presence of the defendant.

The defendant had been given full notice of all that the plaintiff sought to do. All the documents had been served and the defendant had been informed in good time of the appointment of a trial of the matter.

The plaintiff contended that the court did have jurisdiction to conduct proceedings in that manner, notwithstanding the express provisions of Order 13 providing an automatic means of obtaining judgment. There were examples of the exercise of the inherent jurisdiction of the court to conduct a trial of a matter where there had been a failure to comply with Order 19.

Mr Parsons contended that there was authority for the proposition that the court had an inherent jurisdiction to order a trial of a claim on the merits notwithstanding that there had been a failure to serve a defence: see *Austin v Wildig* ([1969] 1 WLR 67) from which it appeared that the rule providing the facility of an automatic judgment was merely permissive, and Note 19/7/6 in *The Supreme Court Practice 1995*.

It was perfectly true that Order 19 related to the service or failure to serve a defence, but there was no reason in principle why, if the court had inherent jurisdiction in relation to Order 19 to order a full trial of a claim, it should not also have inherent jurisdiction in certain circumstances to order the full trial of a claim where there had been a failure to acknowledge service and therefore a failure to give notice of intention to defend: see Note 19/7/6, which suggested that the jurisdiction might be exercised in cases where the plaintiff could not obtain on summons or motion for judgment all the relief he was seeking.

In his Lordship's judgment, a plaintiff who sought a judgment which was likely to be enforceable outside the jurisdiction of the English courts rather than a judgment obtained under the automatic procedures provided by both Order 13 and Order 19, was entitled to invite the court to proceed to the trial of his claim, notwithstanding that he could by means of an automatic judgment obtain precisely the same judgment in the form which he obtained as a result of a trial of the matter in open court.

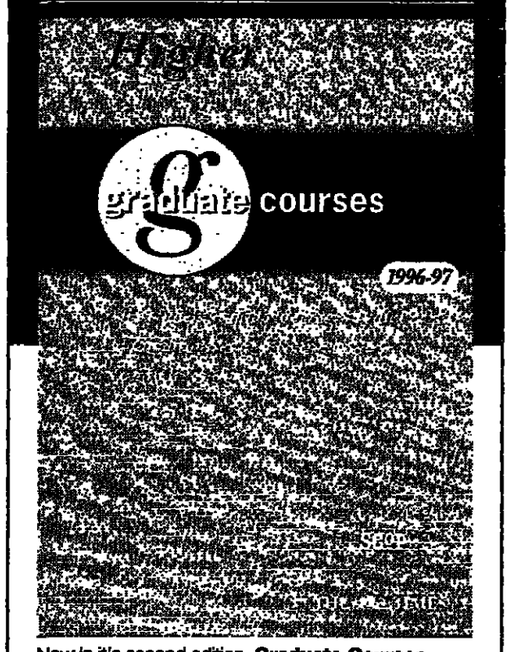
It seemed inappropriate that the court should decline to exercise its jurisdiction in such a case if there was material before it to suggest that a judgment obtained by the automatic method might well not be enforceable in foreign jurisdictions where the defendant was known to have assets or where there was a reasonable belief that he might have assets.

It was appropriate in the present case to conduct a full trial of the claim.

Solicitors: Stephenson Harwood.

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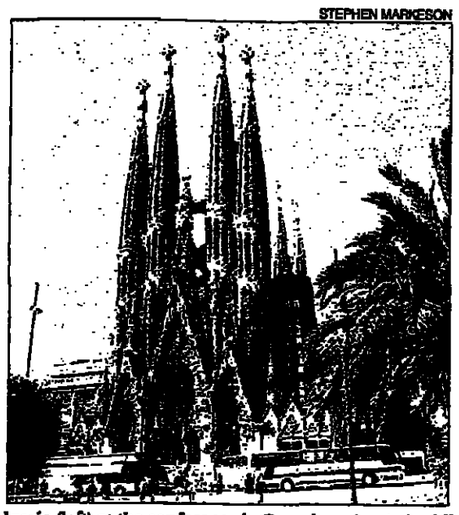
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The European Union hopes that the Euro-Med Conference will stabilise relations on its borders as fundamentalist forces grow


ASSOCIATED PRESS


STEPHEN MARKESON


MARTIN MAYER

Europe is turning its attention to the fundamentalism on its borders in countries such as Algeria (left) at the conference in Barcelona (centre) while continuing to address the development of eastern European states such as Poland (right)

Struggle for soul of the south

George Brock, European Editor, outlines the challenges facing Europe in the Mediterranean

The states of the European Union face a triple challenge in the remaining years of the 20th century. The EU must adjust to an international context changed out of recognition since the Cold War ended in 1989, re-connect west and east Europe and deal with the doubts about integration which have arisen in the past few years.

Against this background, the architects of the EU's external policies are rethinking relations with three areas: eastern and central Europe, America and the Mediterranean. By convening the two-day Euro-Med Conference, which starts today in Barcelona, attended by 15 EU member states and 12 Mediterranean basin countries, Spain is making a determined effort to ensure that the attention and resources devoted to the Mediterranean do not suffer any further in comparison with either eastern Europe or the US. For several years the advocates of a more active (and more expensive) EU policy in the Mediterranean have worried out loud that the competing claims for attention of countries such as Poland and Hungary will win out in Brussels.

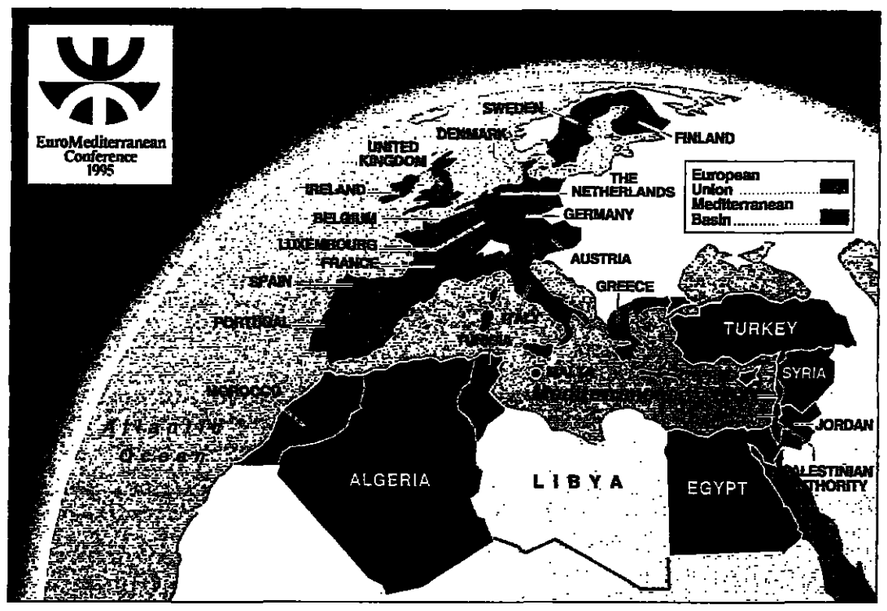
The stark truth is that the claims of the Mediterranean have suffered in the EU in the past few years. Faced with the competing claims of a trade agreement with Poland and Morocco, officials have been directed over the past few years towards Poland. An embarrassingly large number of criticisms from the EU auditors have related to aid delivered under the Integrated Mediterranean Programmes.

And schemes for political cooperation have suffered from the disillusion that dampened the EU's 1991 plans for a common foreign policy. As politicians have faded from the scene, so have their ideas. Italy's foreign minister in 1991, Gianni de Michelis, talked blithely about a security organisation for Mediterranean states. No such thing came to pass.

But there has also been a counter-movement, led by France. A traditionally intricate Brussels negotiation over future aid budgets earlier this year was distended by a tough fight on behalf of the Mediterranean. With Islamic terrorists killing commuters on Paris underground trains, EU governments can hardly ignore the urgency of the simmering political crisis in Algeria. The fragile peace process in the Middle East has refocused money and attention on the eastern Mediterranean.

Lone voices in Brussels have occasionally asked whether it makes any sense for the EU to formulate a "Mediterranean policy" as opposed to a policy for the Maghreb or towards individual states. But successive commissioners have always found it more politically appealing to think big. None have thought quite as big as Sr de Michelis, who cheerfully redefined the Mediterranean as stretching from Mauritania to Afghanistan. More realistic schemes have made more headway.

The EU wants a free trade area including 12 Mediterranean countries, modelling the idea loosely on the European Economic Area which linked the Scandinavian and alpine states to the EU single market. The countries covered by step-by-step proposals to create the trade zone are Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Malta, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey.



The list itself is an eloquent indication of the variety of political cultures, constitutions, per capita income, states of stability and instability included in the capacious term "Mediterranean". Morocco and Tunisia are stable, poor societies lying naturally in France's diplomatic orbit with a strong interest in expanding their exports to the rich markets to their north. Algeria is unstable, poor and a major headache for France. Malta hopes that it is on the threshold of negotiating its entry to the EU. Turkey has spent many years trying to improve its commerce and ties to the EU in spite of steady obstruction by Greece. Israel's economic and diplomatic interests resemble those of no other state in the region.

The problem faced by the architects and advocates of a more active Mediterranean policy is to harness a variety of links to a single purpose. The driving force behind aid to the arc of poor states from Morocco to Turkey is fear of uncontrolled immigration. Both France and Italy have seen their elections upset in the past few years by parties of the Right revived by calls for tougher crackdowns on illegal immigration. Italy has just strengthened its laws on the subject and France has shocked its partners in the Schengen Agreement by dragging its feet over abolishing frontier controls. Freedom of movement, central to previous single market schemes, is explicitly excluded from the programme to create a giant Euro-Med free trade zone in the next century.

In this sense the politicians from the Mediterranean who have complained of being neglected while their northern colleagues rushed to rescue the reborn democracies of eastern Europe have a point. Instability is a risk all along an arc from Tangiers to Szczecin. But a conflagration which might drive refugees towards the EU is at least as likely to the south as to the east.

Militant Islam spurs political action

Poverty and social alienation have fed fundamentalist dissent in North Africa

The war in Algeria marks the most violent confrontation between militant Islam and a secular government, and is the spectre that hangs over the Euro-Med Conference. More than anything, it will both spur European governments to bolster ties with Mediterranean Islamic nations and also inhibit them from too close an involvement in the turbulent region. The dangers of such an involvement were made viciously clear by the recent bombing campaign in Paris, in which Algerian Islamists are the chief suspects.

The announcement by the militant Islamic Salvation Front in Algeria that it was ready to open talks with President Zeroual after his convincing election victory offers a glimmer of hope that both sides in North Africa's bloody civil war may be ready for talks. But any hope that this would mark a turning point in the fight for power throughout the Middle East by militant Islamic radicals would be mistaken.

Algeria is not the only country now grappling with a wave of political opposition claiming the force of religion.

An extremist group has claimed responsibility for the devastating attack on the Egyptian embassy in Pakistan. The car bomb that killed five Americans in Riyadh is thought to be the work of Islamic dissidents. And throughout the region, governments are nervously bracing themselves in the face of uncompromising threats by radicals calling for revolution in the name of Islam.

President Mubarak of Egypt has declared all-out war on Islamic opposition groups that have resorted to sporadic bombings and attacks on tourists, and has now toughened his stance with the ban on the Muslim Brotherhood.

All Arab governments are witnessing a revival, especially among the young, of radical Islam. Morocco and Tunisia have stuck nervously to their secular constitutions, suppressing any political manifestations of the new radicals.

Some countries have taken a hard line from the start, giving little scope for Islamic groups to organise themselves. Colonel Gaddafi has attempted to co-opt Islamic groups into his nationalist movement. The only two countries that allow a degree of political legitimacy to radical Islam are Lebanon — where the situation after the civil war means that Hezbollah is still a powerful force — and Jordan, where King Husain has allowed the Muslim Brotherhood to take part in parliamentary elections and where Islamic activists have a limited say in the country's political life.

There are many roots to Islamic activism, the main ones being poverty, political frustration, social and urban alienation, official corruption and government bureaucracy. In many cases, especially Algeria, those frustrated by the lack of legal opposition to the government turned to the mosques because they were they only places where they could legally organise. In Egypt, the biggest frustration, especially of the impoverished new graduates from lesser universities, is the lack of a job or connections to find employment in the government. In countries further east, discrimination by Sunni regimes against the Shia provides fertile ground for Iranian propaganda which still calls for an uprising against governments considered hostile to an Islamic theocracy on the Iranian pattern.

For the Europeans attending Barcelona, the difficulty will be to elicit from the governments of the southern Mediterranean a true assessment of the threat from radicals. All want to play down the significance — because of the threat to tourism, Western interests and urgently needed investment.

There is, additionally, the difficulty of Libya. Because of the United Nations sanctions over the Lockerbie affair, the European Union has broken off any institutional dialogue with Tripoli. This means that the Euro-Arab dialogue is stultified if Libya is included, and no economic or political agreements can be negotiated with the Maghreb union until the issue of Libyan participation is resolved. All Arab countries are therefore pressing Western Europe, and Britain and France in particular, to drop the demand for the extradition of the two suspects wanted for trial in Scotland or Ameria and settle for the compromise proposal of sending them to a third place — such as the International Court of Justice in The Hague. Britain, and therefore also the EU, will not accept such a compromise; the warning Arab diplomats are likely to voice at Barcelona is that if Gaddafi is so isolated and cut out of any dialogue with Europe, his 25-year-old regime may collapse. There is nothing waiting to replace him except radical Islamic activism.

MICHAEL BINYON
Diplomatic Editor

Jumping over the great wealth gap

Charles Bremner, Brussels Correspondent, on how the poorer countries may benefit

In the best of all worlds, Europe's new Mediterranean pact will, by the year 2010, have given birth to a free market of breathtaking dimension. The cross-Mediterranean commerce of antiquity will have been reborn and merged into a zone of "shared prosperity", as the planned Barcelona declaration puts it. From the western borders of Russia to the Atlantic shore of Africa, 700 million people will be multiplying their wealth in the world's biggest free-trade zone.

But steep hurdles must be vaulted if this vision is to be realised. Despite importing 24 per cent of its oil and natural gas from the littoral nations of the Mediterranean, the European Union ran a £10 billion surplus with those states in 1993. Despite their place on Europe's doorstep, state economic management and political instability means the Arab states of the region receive only 3 per cent of the business investment that goes to the developing world. Citizens on the southern rim have an income of only one twelfth per head that of their EU neighbours and the gap is widening.

The Brussels plan, promoted mainly by France, Italy and Spain, aims to transform the picture with an original approach which, in the eyes of critics, appears to demand the biggest effort by the Mediterranean states themselves. The EU and the South are to scrap all barriers to manufactured goods but because the South already enjoys preferential access to the EU for such products, the deal looks to some like a one-way street. With the exception of the more advanced economies of Turkey and Israel, a common market at present would amount to the death of much of local industry. Advocates of the scheme insist, however, that combined with £3.8 billion of promised European aid over the next five years, the Maghreb and Mashrek states will have a chance — possibly their last — to restructure industries on modern lines and join the global economy.

> Fulfilling the noble idea of free trade has lost some charm

If all goes well, European companies will pour in investment, taking advantage of geographic proximity and lower labour costs to turn out clothing, electrical appliances and other goods to compete with those from the power-houses of Asia and Latin America. A consequence will be a drop in the number of would-be migrants hammering at Europe's gates.

While the EU experts argue that the states of the southern littoral are ripe for investment, not everyone agrees. Gerard Kebabdjian, an economist writing in the *Third World Review*, calculates that the Maghreb states will be net losers in the free-trade arrangement.

The tool for forging the new cross-Mediterranean bond is the series of partnership accords which have been launched over the past year. Tunisia and Israel have led the way, followed this month by Morocco. By binding each nation to Europe, the architects of the scheme aim to promote commerce among the southern states, integrating their economies.

A bleak feature of the current scene is that trade between them accounts for only 4 per cent of their exports and imports. Under Tunisia's pact, teams of European experts are now advising entrepreneurs on how to prepare for the shock of open competition. A government study there estimates, for example, that a third of local industry will collapse without heavy restructuring. But officials there and in Morocco are optimistic that Europe's emphasis on technical help them into a new era.

The outlook is not so rosy for Egypt, Algeria, Syria and Lebanon and other states where traditions of state-run management or political turmoil pose big obstacles to the free-trade doctrine. But Brussels officials say the partnership pacts will create a momentum that will encourage the more reluctant states into swallowing the necessary reforms for fear of being left out.

A brake to the scheme, underestimated until recently, is resistance from the European side. Negotiations with Tunisia and Morocco showed that translating the noble idea of free trade has lost some of its charm now that it requires concessions on non-EU farm imports. The south Europeans fought to keep down imports of Tunisia's olive oil and the Moroccan deal bogged down for weeks in haggling over its canned sardines, citrus products, cut flowers and potatoes. In the case of the flowers, the main objector was Holland, which sees a threat to its own industry.

Ultimately, officials on both sides of the Mediterranean acknowledge, the fate of the free-trade plan will hinge not so much on market forces as on the matter of political will.

CONFERENCE VENUE

THE CHOICE of Barcelona to host the first EuroMediterranean Conference may coincide with Spain's presidency of the European Union but the port city could have been a natural choice for several reasons.

The Catalan capital is in a strategic position on the Mediterranean, the Spanish Government has been a prime mover in lobbying for urgent attention to security in the Mediterranean basin and Spain has the expertise for such a big conference after faultless organisation of both the first Middle East peace conference and the Olympic Games.

Twenty-eight foreign ministers supported by about 300 aides will make up the gathering presided over by Javier Solana, the Spanish foreign minister. More than 1,000 journalists are accredited. But nearly 3,000 other visitors will descend on Barcelona to attend three other simultaneous meetings concerned with the same subject.

STEPHEN MARKESON


Marrakesh: Morocco seeks Euro-Med partnership

Insecurity haunts North African regimes

SOUTHERN HOPES

Southern Mediterranean states hope to exploit their growing internal security concerns as a means of intensifying pressure on the European Union to cement inter-regional ties during the Barcelona summit.

Among North African states there is growing insistence that the EU should respond more positively to demands for resources which would bolster the incumbent governments of the region in the face of insecurity they portray as threatening to Europe.

The EU aid package for Mediterranean states, amounting to £4 billion, announced at the Cannes summit in June, is regarded by the beneficiaries as little more than a token gesture. North African states will use the Barcelona meeting to emphasise the link between political insecurity and a lack of investment. Smail Benamara, Algerian councillor for foreign affairs, says: "It's necessary to give much more money than that provided at Cannes. There cannot be stability and security without the settling of the social questions.

"We hope that Barcelona will be a point of departure. It's necessary that the EU stakes itself to the development of the Mediterranean's southern shore, particularly in the private sector, and that it takes some of the risks."

Algeria plans to push for full Libyan involvement in the EU's global policy for the Mediterranean, a call which is bound to be resisted by EU members. "Libya is more closely associated with the Mediterranean area than say Finland or Sweden," Mr Benamara said.

By raising their security concerns, North African governments will face the question of their own human rights records. All are holding Islamist and other political prisoners, who are viewed as a destabilising influence.

Abdesalam Hetira, co-ordinator for Mediterranean affairs at the Tunisian foreign ministry, says: "We have certain problems but we have them in hand. We are conscious of them and we will confront them, and the way is to encourage investment and create employment.

"The security of the region is linked to the development of the region, and to mutual perceptions — ours and Europe's — which must be balanced. Security encompasses all the other areas. We have, historically between Europe and the Maghreb, a relationship that is structural and organic, and not just economic. It's not a question of blackmail. The link with Europe is an objective one."

Tunisia hopes to use the prospect of new opportunities within the Mediterranean orbit as a way of diluting domestic discontent which could lead to instability, Mr Hetira says.

By contrast, the Moroccan Government hopes to dilute the impression that North African states are in the thrall of Europe, stressing that it is their choice to participate in Barcelona.

Hassan Abouayoub, Morocco's Minister of Agriculture, says: "For years we have been pleading for a different mode of cooperation, and this has resulted in the idea of partnership.

"What we are expecting from Barcelona is a recognition that we need the real involvement of the EU in the development of our countries. Which means that the stress can't be put on the eastern European countries alone, if it means forgetting about what will be happening in the south.

"We need the EU to give private sector backing to encourage greater interest in what is happening in the southern Mediterranean. For Morocco it's the key question — how to create the mechanics of investment from Europe to the south. In this the EU and the lobbies in Brussels have a vital role."

MARK HUBAND
North Africa Correspondent

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
8,697.50	ABN-AMRO	2869½	..	4.5	10.6
8,025.60	Abbey Nat	608	+22	4.0	12.2
2,413.00	Allied Irish	362	+4	4.0	10.5
3,877.20	Aus New Z	279	+2	5.6	..
14,001.28	Bank America	4000	+93¾	..	..
3,304.20	Bank Scotland†	272	+6	2.8	12.0
12,968.30	Barclays	802	+19	3.5	10.9
2,249.00	Br of Ireland†	473	+8	3.8	9.5
149.60	Cater Allen	469	-6	7.9	6.9
16,982.30	Citicorp	4362¼	+68¾	..	..
379.50	Close Bros	318	-6	3.4	14.3
5,331.90	Commerzbk	£149	+11½	3.6	..
36,001.50	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1153¼	-18¾	0.5	..
14,517.70	Deutsche Bk	3053¼	+50	2.4	..
119.90	Espirito Santo	558¾	-100	6.3	7.6
36,907.90	Fuji Bank Y	1273¾	+1	0.4	..
221.60	Gerrard Natl	454	-7	6.2	14.7
359.90	Hambros	203	-3	4.7	..
8,191.50	HSBC	852¼	+12½	3.7	12.4
16,551.90	HSBC HK	932¼	+21	3.8	12.1
288.50	Irish Perm	350	+6	3.5	8.1
24.50	Jacopa (L)	463	..	4.8	25.9
30.10	King Shaxson	117	+3	9.6	9.1
11,243.80	Lloyds	857	+19	3.9	13.1
7,839.00	Nat Aust Bk	549	+8	7.1	..
11,862.40	Nat West	674	-7	4.2	10.5
125.00	Ottoman Bank	2500	..	6.6	3.4
21.90	Rea Brothers	45	..	2.8	18.0
4,353.20	Ryl Bk Scot	540	-16	3.3	13.0
1,972.10	Schroders	1906	+6	1.4	18.6
485.30	Schroders N/V	1103	+8	1.8	15.7
216.40	Singer & Fried	110	+1	4.2	11.4
5,693.90	Stand Chart	587	+41	1.9	14.8
6,189.30	TSB	404	-1	3.8	14.1
29.50	Union	111	..	3.4	..
7,002.30	Wells Fargo	£136¼	+218¾	2.2	..
4,769.00	Westpac	261¾	-3	5.1	..
23.90	Wintrust	278	-15	5.1	15.9

BREWERIES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
61.00	Ascot Hldgs	221	+4	..	0.4
6,056.30	Bass	689	+9	3.9	16.6
533.60	Boddington	438	+2½	2.6	22.6
37.50	Burtonwood Brwy	180½	-3½	3.7	17.5
35.80	Eldridge P 'A'	173	+1	3.1	21.0
83.40	Fuller Sm 'A'	408	-2	2.6	17.5
1,555.40	Greenalls Grp	526	-1	3.2	15.2
266.30	Greene King	628	-1	2.8	16.8
57.80	Hardy Hanson	299	-7	4.2	13.5
3.59	Heantree	155	..	4.5	10.9
56.50	Hall J	3113	-15	2.2	16.7
209.90	Mansfield	325	-4	2.1	18.2
274.50	Marston Thmp	306	+2	2.7	15.3
144.20	Morland	517	-2	2.7	15.6
7.96	Paramount†	6¾	-¼	4.1	10.8
94.30	Regent Inns	597	+5	1.5	23.5
6,063.10	SA Breweries	2125	+37½	1.7	39.9
3,874.20	Scot & New	632	+26	3.6	17.0
	Scot & New P/P	330	..	..	..
374.00	Vaux Group	266	+2	4.7	15.0
233.30	Wetherspoon JD†	639	..	1.6	..
1,300.50	Whitbread†	664	+6	3.9	18.4
347.40	Wolverhampton D	520	-9	3.4	13.4
120.20	Yates Bros	305	+2	1.3	27.0
12.90	Young 'A'	445	-10	4.3	17.8

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
52.30	Abbey	135	..	4.9	8.8
63.00	Allen	195	+17	3.5	14.5
194.50	Amect	96	+24	3.9	20.2
38.60	Andrews Sykes	270	-3	..	..
145.50	Ashtead	477	-30	1.9	15.7
17.00	Avonside†	39	..	10.8	6.2
2.62	Bailey (Ben) Con	35	..	5.2	6.1
16.20	Barcom	35	..	..	..
407.10	Barratt Devs	221	+3	4.2	13.8
463.30	Beazer Homes	165	-2	4.4	11.9
249.50	Bellway	253	-11	3.9	..
7.67	Bellwinch	17	+1	1.5	9.1
370.40	Berkeley Gp	478	+20	2.0	14.8
26.70	Bell Bros	178	..	3.9	..
53.50	Boot (Henry)	198	+6	4.5	9.3
19.80	Brandon Hire	91	..	3.1	18.1
5.24	Britannia Grp	23	..	8.7	4.5
4.49	Br Bldg & Eng	40	+4	25.0	5.5
298.00	Bryant	103	-1	6.1	9.4
47.60	CALA	111	..	3.6	10.7
2.59	Campbell & Arm	16	..	..	14.3
6.63	Clarke T	49	..	10.4	17.6
38.30	Costain	74	..	..	..
56.10	Countryside	76	+3	6.9	10.9
65.30	Crest Nicholson	66	+1½	3.8	9.2
14.30	Cussins	80	..	5.9	7.0
17.60	Eve Group	180	..	7.6	9.7
16.90	Galliford	19	..	6.6	38.6
75.80	Gleeson (MJ)	750	+2	2.5	..
4.70	Green (Ernest)	61	..	10.5	26.6
71.90	Havelock Europ	373	..	1.5	23.0
379.20	Hewden-Stuart	137	-2	2.6	14.6
60.90	Higgs & Hill	92	+6	3.4	78.2
3.96	Howard Hldgs	15	..	6.7	17.5
9.83	Jarvis	23¼	+½	..	..
74.50	Keller	133	-3	3.6	12.9
113.40	Laing (J)	247	+9	4.6	30.5
33.30	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	98	+3	8.2	..
7.96	Lovell (YJ)	20	+5	6.2	2.0
46.50	Manders (UI)†	186	+1	3.8	9.9
109.90	McAlpine (A)†	159	+33	4.7	18.1
64.10	McCarthy & S	65	+3	..	18.5
23.90	Morgan Sindall	75	..	1.4	..
60.60	Morrison Cons	121	..	3.1	11.8
108.30	Mowlem (J)	62	..	4.0	30.9
210.40	Persimmon	180	-11	6.6	12.5
21.80	Pochins	2100	+100	1.9	12.9
89.00	Prowting†	114	..	4.2	15.2
33.50	Raine Ind	18	+1	3.5	..
4.94	Secure Retire	48	-2	2.6	9.1
281.30	Redrow	127	-1	3.1	11.8
38.80	Sherrill Hldgs	346	-1	2.3	12.6
4.85	Shorco	77	-1	6.5	11.8
111.40	Spandex	345	+2	1.0	21.9
44.70	Tay Homes†	153	-2	5.7	10.5
447.40	Taylor Woodrow	116	+1	2.4	22.1
150.40	Tilbury Dougls	445	+18	8.3	15.2
5.31	Torex Hire	32	..	5.1	13.7
9.98	Trencherwood	12	..	..	4.9
6.57	Try Group	9½	..	6.6	13.3
37.90	Vibroplant	82	-1	6.1	6.5
67.20	Wainhomes	108	..	5.2	10.0
24.20	Ward Hldgs	46	..	4.1	10.3
125.20	Westbury†	188	+4	3.9	13.9
14.80	Wiggins	3	..	..	20.6
302.50	Wilson (C)	153	-1	3.7	11.3
323.30	Wilson Bowden	346	-7	3.6	12.6
462.20	Wimpey G	128	+3	5.4	18.6

BUILDING MATERIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9.79	Abrighton	13½	+1½	0.9	..
169.30	Aumasc	419	..	2.2	18.1
1,562.70	BPB Ind	310	-10	3.6	14.4
41.40	Baggeridge Brk	102	+6	3.8	9.6
147.30	Barrport	26½	..	9.4	12.9
13.70	Blockleys	55	-4	0.8	..
2,360.30	Blue Circle†	322	-5	4.6	14.6
22.20	Breedon PLC	78	+4	7.7	10.8
18.90	Br Dredging†	108	..	6.5	14.1
1,596.20	CRH	453	-20	2.3	17.0
2.28	Calebread Rby	38	..	3.3	..
79.00	Cape	146	..	9.4	11.3
1,175.20	Caradon	196	..	6.1	10.1
189.00	Caradon plt	105	..	8.8	..
1.63	Chelfab Gp	19	..	13.2	..
3.05	Dyson (J&J)	185	..	2.7	15.3
11.40	Dyson 'A'	83	+2	6.0	6.9
31.70	Eclipse Blinds	95	+4	..	..
50.50	Epwin	234	+11	4.8	12.6
12.50	Flare	98	..	..	..
1.58	Gibbs & Dandy	93	..	4.3	..
269.60	Grafton Grp	193	+6½	3.5	16.9
118.60	Halstead (J)†	389	+5	2.7	17.1
738.40	Hepworth†	303	+2	6.1	14.0
4.00	Hewetson	43	..	7.4	9.0
222.10	Heywd Wms	229	..	7.5	11.8
189.30	Ibstock†	68	-½	3.2	11.2
35.80	Johnston†	335	..	3.9	7.8
24.50	Lilleshall†	86	-1	7.0	10.3
375.60	Marley	112	-5	5.2	9.8
184.60	Marshalls	149	-8	4.2	10.6
482.80	Meyer Int	382	+24	3.8	14.3
173.80	Newman Tnks	136	+8	6.3	12.2
136.30	Norcros	78	-4	5.6	..
5.93	Phoenix Timber	17	+2	..	16.2
1,894.20	Pilkington▼	189	-11	3.0	15.0
266.00	Polypipe	169	-2	2.0	15.8
2,541.60	RMC Gp▼	1029	+5	2.7	14.0
1.20	Ramus	5	+¼	..	..
1,930.30	Redland†	370	..	5.6	11.3
18.30	Reskelf	102	-1	5.3	10.7
70.40	Ruberoid†	146	-2	5.2	11.8
727.10	Rugby Group	114	-3	3.9	14.7
25.40	Russell (A)†	109	+2	3.0	14.9
174.30	SIG	216	-2	3.9	12.0
3.26	SMP	13	..	1.9	..
33.10	Sharpe & Fisher	157	..	4.0	12.5
108.90	Spring Ram	24	-3	2.6	..
844.90	Tarmac†	91½	-1½	7.5	13.8
12.90	Titan	117	-3	4.9	9.1
353.30	Travis Perkins	343	+8	3.3	14.4
3.27	Tudor†	30	..	3.1	17.8
1.02	Watermouse	41	-2	..	..
461.20	Wickes†	123	-8	1.9	22.9
2,350.90	Wolseley	444	-1	2.8	14.7

BUSINESS SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9.19	Anglo Utd	1	+¼	..	..
24.20	App Holo	82	-13	..	..
3.30	Bailey (CH)	6	..	..	..
10.20	Black Arrow	41	..	9.7	7.0
3.61	Br Bloodstock	88	..	..	39.4
2.15	Caird Gp	3¾	..	..	..
2.79	Charter	7	..	1.8	21.9
17.80	Cosalt	155	+4	7.3	..
7.80	Filofax	258	-25	1.5	17.1
5.37	Headway	33	..	..	30.0
98.80	Hazlewood	415	-3	2.3	18.7
83.90	Leigh	127	-1	7.7	13.2
25.10	Nobo Gp	142	+1	6.5	9.4
98.30	Photo-Me†	162	-2	3.9	14.2
18.90	Plant & Gen	59	-1	5.8	6.3
2.22	Roane	1½	+¼	..	..
171.30	Shanks & McEwan	93	+4	4.6	19.3
41.90	Sinclair (Wm)	192	-1	4.9	..
1,200.20	Waste Mgt Intl	320	+6	..	12.1
40.20	Waste Recyg	121	-1	1.2	28.2

CHEMICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
489.10	Albright & Wil	156	+2	4.8	16.5
688.60	Allied Colloids	139	-5	2.5	18.4
32.60	Amber Ind†	308	-37	3.4	13.6
30.20	Amberley Gp	70	+5	2.3	19.7
8,275.20	BASF DM	£141¼	-33¾	3.2	..
4,159.50	BOC†	871	-18½	3.9	16.8
396.90	BTP	242	-7	5.8	13.4
11,520.20	Bayer DM50	£166¼	-300	3.5	..
109.00	Bayden	150½	-2½	..	..
50.70	Brent Chems†	75	-3	5.3	20.5
439.00	Br Vita	200	-19	4.9	12.7
86.20	Canning (W)†	233	..	4.2	15.0
1,595.70	Courtaulds	394	+1	5.0	17.8
447.60	Croda†	336	-15	3.4	14.7
31.20	Doeflex	215	..	3.4	14.0
251.40	Ellis & Everard	255	+2	4.1	14.9
35.20	Ewo Colour	91	-5	2.3	23.6
21.60	Gibbon	214	-5	3.6	17.0
158.40	Hickson	90	+1	5.6	8.6
9,665.30	Hoechst	£163¼	-368¾	2.2	..
187.40	Holliday Chem	179	-10	3.5	12.7
5,357.80	ICI	739	-40	4.8	14.1
374.50	Inspec	322	-2	1.8	22.5
357.90	Kalon	101	-8	5.7	11.5
1,489.20	Laporte	772	-54	3.7	15.9
34.10	MTM	65	-3	3.1	11.7
114.60	Manders	268	..	4.9	13.0
10.20	Midmoret	45	..	4.2	17.0
21,600.80	Montedison	406	-17	5.0	18.4
92.00	Porvair	374	..	1.7	27.4
537.00	Scapa	224	..	3.5	15.8
15.30	Sutcliffe Speak	27	-3	1.9	33.5
7,823.40	Takeda Chem	884¾	-14½	1.0	12.0
59.00	Wellington Hdg	250	+2	3.4	19.1
73.80	Wardmore R	993	-12	2.1	17.0
126.50	Yorks Chem	274	-2	3.9	13.4
311.60	Yule Catto	310	..	3.0	16.4

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
32.70	ABI Lets	99	-1	5.7	..
21.80	Adam & Harvey	510	-35	4.8	6.6
5.64	Alexanders	14	..	6.2	23.0
60.50	Appleyard	81	..	8.2	9.8
9.19	Ass Br Eng	3½	..	3.1	28.5
148.60	BSS Group	585	-8	4.3	18.3
48.50	Bandt	33	..	..	..
5.84	Bearing Power	18½	..	7.6	8.1
1.26	Bogod 'A'	28	..	3.4	9.2
190.30	Brammer	439	-6	3.8	16.9
4.67	Bridgend Gp	17	..	1.5	..
19.80	Brit Fittings†	83	-1	4.8	12.6
8.35	Caltins	353	..	5.7	18.0
9.84	Central Mtr	86	..	6.2	17.9
23.60	Cook (DC)	55	..	3.4	8.1
454.50	Cowie	286	-9	4.1	12.4
31.00	Dag Motors	138	..	7.0	10.6
22.10	Dennison El	503	-5	1.9	11.1
243.70	Diploma	436	-5	4.3	..
1,374.19	Electrocomponents†	325	+2	2.3	22.1
136.00	Eurodis Elec	232	-2	2.3	16.0
32.80	Eurodollar	67	-1	15.3	3.8
50.90	European Mtr	95	..	8.6	8.2
92.40	Evans Halshaw	288	-4	6.7	8.9
912.50	Farnell Elect	669	-12	1.8	19.5
10.28	Fife Indmas	86	..	6.2	10.8
20.40	Gardner	18	..	6.4	8.4
8.91	Glenchewton	29½	+1½	1.3	..
7.82	Gowrings	85	..	3.3	14.1
19.80	Hards (Philip)	182	-2	4.9	12.8
79.50	Headlam†	191	-4	2.7	16.7
259.00	Henlys	500	-9	2.5	18.6
4.18	Holders Tech	134	-2	5.6	25.5
61.30	ISA Intl†	153	-3	1.3	16.7
1,293.60	Inchcape†	245	-52	7.7	22.2
6.48	Jacks (Wm)	69	..	1.6	11.4
316.40	Kwik-Fit	183	-4	3.1	15.6
333.40	Lex Service	295	-16	6.1	15.7
29.10	Lookers	149	..	6.4	8.2
18.40	Mabya Gp	11¼	-½	5.3	15.2
52.70	Middlesex	8¾	+¼	0.7	20.1
20.60	Mosstales	39	+1	..	3.5
50.40	Norbain	485	..	1.3	16.7
44.20	Nottingham	269	+6	0.8	20.9
12.20	PCT	137	..	7.0	9.8
104.40	Pendragon	272	..	3.9	14.2
39.50	Perry Gp†	156	-2	6.1	11.8
32.30	Quicks Group	140	+5	5.1	11.9
17.40	REA	185	..	2.6	23.2
5.31	Reece	3	-¼	..	..
24.20	Ronson	54	..	2.9	11.0
5.17	Ross Gp	3½	..	..	..
53.50	SEP Intl	59½	-½	2.5	19.8
27.20	Salitre	10½	-½	..	6.0
31.10	TLS	69	-4	3.4	11.7
136.40	Time Products	256	..	4.6	14.8
123.00	Vardy (Reg)	265	+9	2.7	16.8
43.60	Wholesale Ftgs	305	+1	4.8	19.0
56.50	Whitworth	60¾	-4½	1.8	14.4
43.30	Wyko	85	..	1.8	..
17.10	Young (H)	103	+3	4.4	15.8

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
104.60	Aowsilt	127	..	7.7	10.2
444.60	Antofagasta†	283	+5	2.0	13.3
15,765.10	Broken Hill	865	-2	2.7	20.3
12,387.70	BTR†	328½	-4½	5.3	14.3
17,545.50	BAT†	568	+14	5.0	12.9
360.80	Berisford Intl	172	+7	1.1	45.5
187.50	Bibby (J)	120	-4	8.2	..
1,312.70	Brierley Inv	49¼	+1¾	8.7	2.8
698.70	Charter	804	-15	3.9	13.0
2,009.80	Cookson†	296	-12	3.1	18.8
97.30	Grampian Hdg	140	..	5.2	15.8
9,863.10	Hanson	190½	-2	7.9	10.4
1,048.90	Harrison Crsfld†	148	..	7.6	15.7
12,606.20	Hutch Whamp	348¼	+3¾	2.2	18.8
2,612.60	Jardine Math	363½	-3¾	4.4	7.3
4.86	Jourdan (T)	27	+1	5.9	7.2
1,312.60	Lonrho	169	+1	3.3	23.3
103.10	McLeod Russel	169	+18	4.8	..
39.70	Porter Chadbn	42	+1	..	14.3
401.20	Powell Duffryn	467	-110	6.8	12.0
34.60	Ropner	148	..	7.0	10.2
3,339.50	Sime Darby	158	+5	3.0	14.7
243.40	Steetley†	212	-½	5.0	14.5
210.10	Suter	179	-6	6.8	11.9
427.50	TT Group	357	-2	2.7	15.0
3,062.50	Tomkins	258	-4½	4.2	14.4
258.60	Trafalgar H	24	+2½	5.2	..
57.40	Unitate	395	..	6.4	..
102.00	Wardle Storeys	400	+5	5.6	..
500.40	Wassall	289	..	2.3	14.7
82.50	Whitecroft	188	..	3.0	14.0
1,928.50	Williams Hldg	332½	-1½	5.2	15.5

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,726.10	East Midlands	870	-36	4.2	11.8
2,435.00	Eastern Grp	974	..	3.8	13.0
1,799.30	London Elec	906	-27	4.5	10.7
1,101.80	Manweb	1023	+8	3.9	13.9
1,780.20	Midlands	933	-49	5.1	9.5
5,526.30	National Power	464	-37	4.5	9.4
6,140.80	Nat Power P/P	173	-35	4.4	9.7
942.50	Northern Elec	953	+25	4.6	9.0
623.40	Nthn Ireland	445	-28	3.8	10.9
1,601.00	Norweb	1025	+8	3.5	10.8
3,809.50	PowerGen	524	-45	4.1	9.5
1,334.90	PowerGen (P/P)	308	-47	4.0	11.4
1,367.00	Hydro-Elect	361	+12	4.9	10.5
3,615.20	Scottish Power	385	+14	4.1	12.1
1,575.50	Seeboard	642	+1	2.8	13.8
953.10	Sth Wales	1027	-3	3.7	10.7
993.90	Sth Western	800	..	4.0	10.6
2,511.60	Southern Elec	920	-51	4.8	13.9
1,637.50	Yorkshire Elec	888	-29	4.3	11.1

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
98.20	Acal	509	+2	1.8	20.4
133.00	Acorn Comp	148	+7	..	..
99.00	Admiral	798	+5	1.3	20.9
118.90	Alba	252	-1	2.6	17.2
329.70	Amstrad†	283	+4	1.1	..
36.80	Arlen	36	-1	2.1	12.5
378.00	Ashtec	122½	-7½	1.3	19.0
107.40	Axiom	488	-12	0.8	21.7
1,005.60	BICC†	284	+8	5.5	16.7
24.90	Bowes Hylter	235	..	5.4	12.6
139.70	BNS	455	-6	3.3	14.6
816.40	Bowthorpe†	423	-10	2.7	19.3
6.83	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	26¼	+1¾	1.9	10.4
33.80	CML Micro	128	-1	6.0	13.3
27.40	Channel Hldgs	30	+7	5.5	8.5
57.60	Chloride	23¾	+1	1.8	30.5
13.10	Claytrite	71	..	5.4	17.7
22.00	Copyrgle	208	..	4.9	27.1
120.90	Cray Elect	51	-1½	6.1	..
88.50	Crickley	623	..	2.0	21.2
1,070.30	Danka Bs Sys	540	-15	0.5	29.1
589.10	Delta†	401	-9	4.9	13.8
104.70	Domino	392	-54	3.2	12.9
91.10	Dowding Mills	61	..	5.6	16.2
150.40	Druck	2350	+160	0.7	30.8
1,991.80	Electrolux 'B'	2796¾	+234¾	4.4	4.3
33.60	Emess	31½	..	0.4	..
13,483.20	Ericsson 'B'	1540¾	+78¾	0.9	34.5
35.10	Eurocopy	72	-2	3.7	14.4
508.90	Eurotherm	568	-1	1.4	28.7
429.60	Fairey Group	524	..	1.7	22.0
208.60	Filtronic Com	497	-3	0.2	78.5
82.70	Forward Gp	608	-27	1.4	26.0
28.30	Forward Tech†	82	+1	3.8	11.4
8,757.70	GEC	318	-6	4.5	15.2
82.70	Graseby	138	-15	6.4	11.7
41.30	Ind Control	103	+5	4.4	20.5
11.70	Inielek	29	+1	3.2	36.8
107.90	Kenwood App	235	+13	5.3	10.5
9.40	Kode	89	..	..	..
3.06	LPA Ind	34	..	6.2	24.2
48.30	MTL Inst	267	..	2.3	14.8
139.70	Memec-Sw	274	-4	2.3	18.1
38.60	Microtect	52¼	+2	1.9	17.7
411.70	Mitel	389	-28	..	..
204.00	Oxford Ins	413	-20	1.8	16.3
6.16	Pacer Systems†	137	..	3.2	17.5
121.20	Peak†	101	..	4.2	16.3
8,031.00	Philips Lmp nv	2371¼	-28¾	2.1	9.4
21.20	Pifco	221	..	2.8	13.8
14.60	Pifco 'A' Vtg	211	..	2.9	13.2
6.86	Plasmec	143	..	3.9	11.4
52.70	Pressact	142	-3	3.1	..
15.80	Prestwick	39	-1	..	15.5
162.20	Psion	705	+66	0.7	29.8
5.62	Quadrant Grp	15	..	2.1	41.9
735.20	Racal Elect	261	..	2.4	20.1
14.80	Radamec	80	+4	3.4	17.7
96.00	Rainford	402½	-13½	..	22.6
158.50	Roxboro	283	-2	2.3	13.9
4.73	Scantronic	9	-1	..	..
32.00	Sivermines	50	..	2.7	13.3
3.64	Soundtracs	36	..	8.7	10.4
56.30	Stores	226	..	2.5	15.8
1.58	TDS Circuits	7½	-½	..	..
4,181.60	TDK	3181¼	+3¼	1.0	..
21.60	Tadpole Tech	82	..	..	..
144.00	Telemetrix	157	-1	1.0	22.3
19.80	TGI	92	..	3.7	11.6
295.80	Telspec	933	-41	0.5	52.3
32.20	Thorpe FW	250	+2	2.0	15.2
298.80	TLG	166	-1	1.8	17.8
2.22	Total Systems	22	..	..	22.9
98.00	Tunstall	298	-6	1.7	19.0
359.50	Unitech	515	-11	1.8	18.9
29.60	Veniv	12½	..	1.0	19.9
118.60	Volex	429	+5	5.7	15.1
4.84	Wakebourne	22	..	..	3.1
52.70	Whessoe	178	..	1.1	..

ENGINEERING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
46.70	AIM	320	+2	1.8	..
251.60	APV†	85	-1	4.5	..
129.10	ASW	155	-4	5.1	7.4
17.10	Aero Hamble	30	..	..	..
80.60	Alvis	145	..	1.1	..
61.00	Ash & Lacy	165	..	4.9	11.4
66.90	Atlas Energy	643	+5	4.3	22.5
13.00	Ayrshire Metal	130	..	5.3	7.5
74.40	BI Group	102	+1	5.9	13.0
248.60	Babcock	147	-18	2.2	..
67.40	BM†	141	+4½	6.5	13.6
153.30	Baynes (Charles)	99	-3	2.8	17.2
10.30	Beauford	23	-1	2.4	5.4
1.44	Billam	50	-28	7.4	..
236.70	Bodycote†	406	-10½	1.8	20.7
1.40	Booth Inds	35	..	..	..
13.50	Bradway	17	-½	4.3	16.5
95.20	Brition▼	129	..	4.0	16.5
3,368.40	Br Aerospace†	787	+54	1.7	29.4
3,429.00	Br Steel†	168½	+5½	6.3	4.9
4.94	Brooke Tool	13	..	1.0	30.1
40.10	Bunzl	32¼	-2¼	1.0	12.6
150.00	Bullough	124	-1	6.1	12.0
37.00	Burnfield	108	-2	3.5	15.6
194.00	Carclo Eng	316	-12	4.0	17.0
87.80	Cashings	182	+2	2.2	15.5
11.50	Chamberlin Hill†	158	+2½	5.7	9.4
91.20	Chemring	383	-2	3.3	18.4
17.20	Clyde Blowers	218	+30	3.5	..
338.90	Cobham▼	443	+6	2.4	27.0
5.20	Cohen (A)	650	..	1.2	6.0
87.60	Concentric	161	-2	4.8	12.2
44.50	Cook (Wm)	225	+12	4.6	9.2
140.40	David Brown	213	-2	4.1	14.0
204.10	Dobson Park	130	..	5.9	26.8
208.20	ES	388	-2	4.2	14.0
41.90	Elliott (B)	112	..	3.0	11.8
58.90	Expamet	95	+2	2.2	17.6
924.30	FKI	164	+6	3.7	15.2
129.40	Fenner	140	-1	3.3	..
0.37	Ferrum	1½	..	..	..
49.10	GEI Int	133	+1	2.8	16.3
7.41	Garton Engt	190	-2	3.8	10.3
772.40	Glynwed†	318	-20	4.9	12.8
34.20	Graystone†	12	-3	5.4	8.3
91.20	Haden MacLn	83	+½	3.3	21.7
14.00	Hadleigh	195	+7	1.9	16.6
82.50	Hall Eng	196	..	3.9	..
456.70	Halma	171	-1	1.6	23.0
3.70	Hampson Ind	51	-½	5.4	9.8
4.50	Hay (Norman)	30	..	..	..
40.70	Hill & Smith	171	..	6.6	14.0
24.20	Hopkinsons†	31	+½	5.2	..
13.80	Hev Gpt	33	..	2.8	..
224.50	Howden	77	-2	4.4	10.2
202.70	Hunting†	207	..	6.0	19.4
1,071.70	IMI	312	-11	4.3	28.2
90.20	Jobsrcx & FB	64	..	0.6	68.4
1,246.90	Johnson Matth	577	-14	3.0	17.4
12.60	Jones Stroud	49	-1	..	..
18.10	Kelsey Ind	583	+10	3.4	14.8
27.20	Lincat	286	..	3.8	14.1
5.40	Locker (T) A	18	+1½	3.1	13.6
68.60	ML Hldgs	42	+2	3.7	13.9
9.04	MS Intl	33	+1	1.9	..
37.40	Marling Bronze†	225	+3	2.8	11.2
418.90	McKechnie†	427	+1	4.8	..
190.90	Meggitt†	88	+½	5.6	23.6
110.70	Metalrax	109	+2	4.3	17.5
15.20	Metrotect	98	-26	4.0	20.7
273.50	Molins	802	-2	2.7	14.0
904.90	Morgan Crucbl†	410	+17	4.1	17.9
26.80	Morris Ashby	301	-2	2.8	18.5
12.80	Neepsend	52	..	3.6	13.3
12.93	Neotronics	50	-4	4.2	10.2
10.10	OMI Intl	14	..	8.7	..
322.70	Pentecsten	363	-12	2.9	13.3
12.70	Prospect Inds	4½	-¼	19.4	..
0.88	Radiant Metal	65	..	..	..
32.70	Ransomes	57½	..	..	..
22.60	Renold†	86	..	6.8	13.2
242.70	Renishaw▼	400	+21½	2.0	28.6
171.80	Rexon	256	-11	2.8	14.5
3.11	Richards (Leics)†	37	..	7.6	12.9
29.00	Richardson West	89	-1	5.5	13.1
2,482.00	Rolls-Royce†	170	-1	3.1	24.4
145.40	Rotork	166	-3	3.8	15.8
180.20	Rubicon	178	+2	3.7	17.1
285.40	Senior Engt	94½	..	4.8	33.4
33.90	Servomex	333	..	2.7	22.5
20.70	Smith-Rve	132	+1	1.4	22.8
3,161.80	Siebe	744	-21	2.0	20.6
134.30	Simon Eng	85	+3	..	..
86.80	Sth Hundred	160	+4	1.8	11.4
	SKF 'B'	1328¼	+34¾	3.1	12.2
1,794.50	Smiths Indt	594	-4	3.0	18.9
474.50	Spirax-Sarco†	606	+2	2.5	19.1
82.00	Sterling Ind	293	+8	3.4	14.1
2,049.50	TI	437	-4	3.5	20.5
18.40	Tinsley (E)	100	..	7.0	13.9
82.80	Transtec	85	..	2.1	..
90.50	Triplex Lloyd	139	+2	6.3	13.8
35.80	Utd Inds▼	16	..	2.9	12.8
15.50	Vesoin	10½	-¼	..	..
882.00	Vickers	208	+3	2.5	21.7
14.70	Vilers Grp	12½	..	..	..
334.20	Vosper	692	-11	1.7	17.7
274.90	Vosper Thorny	858	-16	2.2	15.5
228.40	Wagon Ind	441	-12	5.5	12.5
440.90	Weir	222	-4	4.0	18.7
75.10	Wellman	52½	..	3.8	9.9
101.70	Whatman	442	-6	3.3	14.2
14.80	Widney	10½	..	3.3	16.3

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5.78	AAF Inds	25	..	..	..
24.20	Airflow Stream†	285	..	3.5	6.6
15.80	Armour†	42½	..	5.8	12.1
139.90	Avon Rubber	524	..	4.0	18.9
1,183.50	BBA	286	-1	2.2	..
171.80	BSG†	58½	+4½	6.8	12.4
5.01	Benson Group	3½	..	4.3	..
50.90	Bostrom†	303	-2	2.6	16.8
11.20	Boustead	17	..	7.5	..
23.50	Caverdale	9¼	..	3.6	6.5
26.90	ERF	274	..	2.1	18.1
72.70	First Tech	460	+8	1.9	17.4
2,889.70	GKN	828	+5	3.4	16.9
22,648.60	General Mtr	3187¼	+218¾	2.4	..
10,993.30	Honda Motor	1128½	-49¾	0.8	..
573.60	Lanfl	404¼	+¼	3.6	15.4
8.10	Loades	405	..	..	..
1,606.70	Lucas†	183½	-12½	4.8	56.0
298.80	Mayflower	95½	..	2.2	24.9
45.50	Sylone	192	-1	3.5	17.9
727.60	T & N	137	-1	5.5	..
186.10	Trinity Hldgs	362	+2	2.6	19.6

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
3,168.00	AB Food	704	+2	2.3	12.6
146.30	Acatos & Hutch	264	+16	4.3	10.0
370.20	Albert Fisher†	52	+1½	9.0	12.7
24.10	Banks (S C)	277	+1	4.5	14.7
67.20	Barr (AG)	341	-4	2.9	15.3
13.00	Bensons Crsp	25½	-	..	..
618.90	Booker†	363	-5	7.8	18.5
20.70	Borthwick	35½	-1	4.6	25.3
38.50	CPL Aromas	353	..	1.3	25.3
5,498.80	Cadbury-Schwt	556	+11	3.6	19.9
21.90	Carrs Milling	313	..	3.5	..
27.40	Carswick	193	+2	5.8	12.2
15.80	Dalepak#	136	..	2.0	18.0
1,131.70	Dalgety†	392	-11	7.0	11.8
4.48	Daniels S	45	..	0.3	..
313.90	Devro	232½	-1½	3.9	14.7
24.90	Everest†	98	+5	5.1	8.8
4.58	Farmglord	17½	+1	..	..
60.80	Finlay (James)†	61	-2	6.5	24.3
8.10	Glassit	17¼	+½	3.7	12.1
460.80	Greencore	540	+10	2.3	14.2
223.30	Hazlewood Fds	98	-13	8.7	8.8
1,087.90	Hillsdown†	156	-7	7.4	10.5
112.90	Hobson†	28¾	+2¼	3.4	33.0
28.00	JLI Group	67¾	+1½	9.2	10.6
49.40	Linton Park	305	-3	6.1	7.5
122.70	Matthews (B)	99	..	4.1	9.4
92.60	Nichols (JN)	235	..	3.3	15.2
1,048.40	Wiss Foods	181	+9	6.2	..
7.06	Nthntn Fn	11¾	-2	..	8.6
1.76	Pascal's	110	..	..	..
7.52	Pengladen (UK)	9¾	..	..	..
89.70	Perkins Food	72	..	7.7	10.2
48.20	SeaPerfect	98	+17	..	..
6.32	Sentry Farm	147	..	2.9	11.8
14.80	Sims Food	43	..	8.9	14.1
1,790.50	Tate & Lyle	451	+13	4.1	9.4
31.30	Treas	328	..	2.0	14.7
1,000.00	Unigate	425	+4	5.5	14.3
9,979.70	Unilever†	1223	-16	2.8	14.7
13,203.40	Unilever (NV)	8218¾	-93¾	3.0	12.2
1,374.60	Utd Biscuits†	260	-1	6.4	16.5
14.00	WT Foods	33	-2	9.5	12.3
39.60	Yorkshire Food	89	-1	5.1	10.2

HEALTHCARE

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
518.90	Amersham	990	+18	2.4	19.0
29.80	Amogen	64	-6	..	..
27.60	Assoc Nursg	168	..	2.2	12.8
81.20	Bespak	321	-3	4.0	22.2
201.60	Biocomps Intl	465	+1	..	..
27.80	Care UK	69	+1	0.5	17.7
89.50	Celsis	129	-3	..	..
59.80	Community Hlt	254	-4	4.3	13.0
58.80	CrestaCare	31½	-¼	3.3	11.0
7.48	Ennomed	29	+3	6.0	3.7
5.80	Feraris Group	59	..	..	..
48.50	Goldsborough	113	+3	3.9	9.1
19.30	Greenacret	11	+¼	4.3	13.4
226.10	Hstdgh Tec	603	-25	1.4	29.3
13.90	Intercare Gp	49	-3	8.9	11.8
38.10	Isotron	305	..	2.2	17.5
155.20	Life Sciences	89	..	8.2	9.2
457.60	Lon Intl	135	+1	0.9	..
52.40	Nestor-BNA	70	+3	5.6	15.7
8.80	Premier Health	11	+1	..	0.8
38.50	Quality Care	275	+5	2.1	13.6
142.80	Scholl	210	-4	3.9	..
189.90	Seton Health	382	+3	2.4	18.6
18.20	Shield Diag	98	+12	..	32.4
2,146.90	Smith & Nephew	195	+½	3.5	22.5
3.80	Specialeyes	19	..	..	0.7
247.60	Takare	197	-3	1.5	13.6
441.70	UniChem†	255	-2	3.6	14.4
309.30	West Hlthcare	327	+3	2.1	14.5

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
42.80	Airsprung	179	..	3.8	9.8
6.53	BLP Group	99	..	3.9	8.1
3.98	Bilston Battrsa	45	-2	..	23.9
35.10	Crowd Ptr 'A'	87	-½	0.9	..
6.30	Creighton Nl	134	-3	7.2	9.6
53.80	Denby Group	161	+2	2.4	17.9
6.96	Gastell	142	..	3.7	11.0
152.20	HWP Intl	443	+15	2.7	12.4
4.41	Lionheart	2¼	..	..	..
353.50	McBride	202	-2	4.1	20.4
56.20	Maybom▲	248	+6½	3.4	11.9
24.40	Osborne & Little	400	-38	3.3	10.2
108.80	Paterson Zoch	446	..	4.2	13.8
87.60	Paterson Zch 'A'†	381	..	4.9	11.8
2,819.50	Reckitt Colmn†	665	+19	3.6	15.4
56.30	Relyon	263	+5	3.4	16.8
134.80	Royal Doulton	245	-1	4.0	12.2
85.30	Silentnight	183	..	5.5	12.3
15.20	Stoddard	22	-3½	6.8	7.4
11.10	Tomkinsons	170	-14	8.9	..
5.85	Victoria Carpet	86	..	2.9	..
100.30	Walker Greenbk	86	+1	5.2	16.5
411.10	Wilson Widgwd	58	..	1.9	12.5
3.50	Wood (Arthur)	175	..	3.0	13.8

INSURANCE

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
653.00	Alex & Alex	1475	+62½	4.3	..
4,429.30	Am Genl	2182¾	+12½	3.7	..
105.40	Angerstein	88	..	4.3	28.3
19.80	Archer	54	..	2.3	..
42.10	Bradstock	66	..	10.3	9.2
1,411.50	Britannic	739	-2	2.4	..
83.60	CLM Insce	97	..	2.7	..
4,315.90	Gen Union	643	+21	5.2	10.3
97.60	Dom & Gen	1435	+10	2.9	14.4
76.30	FBD Ic	189	+¼	3.9	8.0
50.50	Fenchurch Gp	140	-1	7.3	9.3
31.80	Finsbury Under	106	..	2.0	53.0
3,137.40	Gen Accident†	655	-4	5.7	8.7
2,305.80	GRE†	258½	+24½	4.1	5.0
59.00	HCG Lloyds	97½	..	4.4	38.0
59.80	Heath C E	148	-14	12.1	9.1
145.90	Hiscox	278¼	+	3.6	39.3
31.80	Hiscox Select	106	..	2.6	41.8
153.80	Independent	341	-8	3.7	7.5
758.80	Irish Life†	250	-7	5.3	22.0
140.00	JIB Group	109	-4	8.6	12.8
26.70	Kim Capital	99	..	5.1	..
3,532.60	Legal & Genl	718	+43	3.9	21.2
4,683.30	Liberty Life	1921¾	+66¾	7.1	5.9
108.10	Lloyd Thomp	139	+1	8.1	..
3,245.90	Lloyds Abbey	467	+26	5.4	14.4
518.10	London & Mnchr	425	+6	5.2	17.3
281.40	London Ins Mkt	100¼	..	3.6	28.6
74.80	Lowndes Lmb	136	-5	8.5	6.9
3,999.20	Marsh McLn	5425	+75	2.8	..
39.90	Masthead	99	..	3.2	26.4
68.40	Nelson Hurst	147	-3	6.0	9.4
50.40	New London Cap	84	..	4.1	30.7
40.80	Ockham	51	-5	7.5	..
56.80	Orefi	102	+5	6.4	11.6
16.00	Premium Trust	81	..	4.6	..
16.10	Premium Under	122	+1	..	..
8,371.70	Prudential†	439	+18	4.2	18.7
5.62	PWS	18	..	2.4	..
746.10	Refuge†	471	+1	3.3	32.7
2,550.30	Royal	387	+5	4.3	7.5
688.50	Sedgwick	126	+3	6.6	10.2
22.40	Steel Burrill	43	-2	21.8	4.3
3,302.90	Sun Alliance†	393	+20	5.1	11.1
30.10	Syndicate Cap	93	+1	3.7	26.8
128.00	Trade Indemnity†	70	..	2.0	31.1
587.40	Utd Friendly	712	+4	3.7	15.3
524.10	Willis Corroon†	125	+2½	6.6	89.5
4.73	Windsor	14	..	4.5	5.0

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
2,549.10	3i	435	+4	2.1	..
32.80	Abtrust Emerg	65½	-1	0.4	..
23.90	Abtrust High Inc†	78½	..	9.9	..
88.60	Abtrust N Dawn	200½	-½	0.7	..
1,016.60	Alliance	2017	+8	3.2	..
240.30	American Trust	288¼	+5½	2.4	..
534.50	Anglo & O'seas	468	+5	1.8	..
36.00	Baillie Gifford SN	125	-3	..	..
319.50	Bankers	206	-2	2.4	..
48.50	Baring Em Eu	39	..	..	..
179.00	Bardg Tribne	349	+4	2.4	..
304.90	Br Assets	94¼	-½	6.1	..
181.90	Br Empire Sec	94	+½	1.3	..
4.52	Br Empire Wts	34	..	..	..
689.50	Br Inv	221	-1	2.0	..
44.80	Brodlan	71¼	+2¼	..	..
158.70	Brunner	248	+3	2.9	..
59.40	BZW Conv	116	-2½	8.4	..
110.90	Candover	485	+6	3.2	..
81.00	Center Euro Gwth	40½	..	1.4	..
34.90	Child & Exeter	171	+6½	2.8	..
39.60	Contl Assets	181	..	2.1	..
5.47	Dunedin Inv Inc	75	..	13.3	..
52.60	Derby Cap	348	+5	..	..
18.40	Derby Inc	156	+2	14.6	..
228.50	Dunedin Inc G	714	+8	4.7	..
16.20	Dunedin Japan	80	-½	..	..
54.60	Dunedin Smlr	325	-½	3.5	..
1.60	Dunedin Wts	20	..	..	..
259.00	Dunedin Wwde	773	+7	1.5	..
246.50	Edin Dragon	93¼	-2¼	..	..
19.10	Edinburgh Inca	23¼	+¼	..	..
956.30	Edinburgh†	325½	+1½	3.7	..
31.00	EFM Japan	137	-1	..	..
645.70	Electra Inv	373	+7	2.6	..
194.40	Electric Gen	215	..	1.8	..
1.90	English Scot	144	+1	..	..
84.00	European Asset	337	..	1.9	..
100.80	Fidelity Euro Val	193½	-1½	0.2	..
73.20	Fidelity Jap Val	69½	-1½	0.2	..
38.70	Fidelity Spec Valt	105¼	+3	0.8	..
27.40	Finsbury 'A'†	171	+½	3.5	..
6.60	First Spanish	75	+1	0.4	..
204.20	Fleming Amer	299	+1	0.7	..
33.00	Fleming Chinese†	54½	-1	1.1	..
2.70	Fleming Ch Wts	22½	+1½	..	..
134.40	Fleming Clvert	243	+3	3.0	..
227.20	Fleming Contl	348	+7	1.2	..
133.00	Fleming Em Mkts	137½	+3½	..	..
100.80	Fleming Entp	252	+1	2.5	..
477.80	Fleming F East	316	+1	0.6	..
50.00	Fleming Fledg	397	..	0.8	..
32.70	Fleming HI Inc	100½	-½	5.8	..
47.10	Fleming Indian	35½	+2	1.0	..
4.24	Fleming In Wts	25¼	-1¼	..	..
28.70	Fleming Intl	384	..	11.0	..
454.10	Fleming Japan	238½	+3	..	..
419.10	Fleming Merc	390	-1	3.0	..
36.60	Fleming Nat Res	89	+1	..	..
431.60	Fleming O'seas	325	+1	1.8	..
1,594.80	Foreign & Col	151¼	+1¼	1.5	..
44.90	For & Col Inc Gwh	104	..	3.9	..
188.40	Frgn Emg Mkts	100¼	+¼	..	..
81.80	Frgn Enterprise	87	+1	1.1	..
159.50	Frgn Eurost	256	+4	0.6	..
48.90	Frgn German	124½	-½	0.5	..
390.90	Frgn Pacific	169¾	-½	1.0	..
76.80	Frgn PEP	135	..	3.7	..
181.70	Frgn Smaller	173½	+½	1.5	..
65.00	Frgn US Smlr	129¼	+1½	..	..
2.97	Fulcrum Cap	18½	..	..	..
4.04	Fulcrum Inc	36	..	..	..
13.80	Fulcrum Zero	180	-½	..	..
109.00	Gartmore Brit†	218	+1	4.2	..
9.31	Gartmore Ent	397	+3	2.4	..
28.10	Gartmore Euro	185½	..	0.9	..
31.60	Gartmore Shrd	93	..	13.2	..
35.30	G'more Smlr Cos†	245	+2	2.9	..
35.00	Geared Inc Invt	87	..	11.9	..
31.30	Gest Cons Cap	173	..	..	..
39.10	Genl Inc	108	..	11.1	..
39.10	German Inv	100	-1	0.2	..
76.90	Gov Asn Sm Cos	205	+9	0.2	..
35.00	Gov Emg Mks	98	+1½	0.4	..
46.60	Govett Am Smlr	187	+4	..	..
18.50	Gov Glob Smlr	85	..	..	..
36.60	Govett High Inc	76½	..	9.2	..
637.90	Govett Oriental†	355	+5	0.4	..
284.80	Govett Strategic	290	+4	3.0	..
52.60	Greenfriar	436	+1	2.0	..
0.25	Gresham House	6	..	..	..
142.30	GT Japan	228	-1	0.7	..
86.70	H Govett Smlr▼	131	-1	1.9	..
32.40	Hend High	124	..	5.6	..
59.10	Hend Stratg	354	+2	0.2	..
86.50	Herald	133	+5	0.5	..
18.80	High Income T	83	+½	9.6	..
86.80	HTR Jap Smaller	86¾	-1¾	..	..
0.45	I&S Ent	15	..	..	..
33.60	I&S UK Smlr	116	..	3.0	..
356.20	Inv Capt	144	-1	4.6	..
38.50	Intl Biotech†	102	+1	1.2	..
	Intl Wts	36	..	..	..
100.40	INVESCO Asia	89¼	..	..	..
8.09	INVESCO Blue	84	+1	16.4	..
65.20	INVESCO Eng Int	133	..	0.8	..
45.60	INVESCO Korea	137	-2	..	..
59.20	INVESCO Tokyo	52¼	+¼	..	..
26.70	J Fry 2nd Ut	82	-1½	9.1	..
8.84	J Fry Euro U	83	..	6.7	..
133.80	JF Fledg Jap	212¼	-1½	..	..
31.40	Jupiter Intl Grn	125	..	3.4	..
199.70	Kinwd Ctrl	246½	+2½	2.7	..
31.10	Knwt E Mkt	110	+4½	..	..
38.40	Knwt End	128	-1½	..	..
411.30	Knwt Euro Pvt	82¼	-¼	3.5	..
21.80	Knwt Euro Wts	21¼	..	..	..
24.60	Knwt H Inc	82	..	13.5	..
214.50	Knwt O'seas	267¼	+3½	1.6	..
18.10	Knwt Smli	137	+1	2.2	..
137.70	Korea—Euro	560¼	-11¼	0.1	..
79.90	Latin American	88¼	+¼	..	..
224.30	Law Debenture	988	+34	2.7	..
25.00	Lloyds Sm Cap	102	+1	..	..
6.50	Lloyds Sm Dw	26½	-½	17.5	..
31.40	Lloyds Sm Ptg	128	..	3.6	..
58.40	Lon St Lawrence†	178	+2	4.5	..
44.70	Lon Smaller Co'st	98	..	4.0	..
78.20	Lowland†	330	-½	3.8	..
194.00	Lydenburg	1225	..	1.8	..
64.50	M&G 2nd Dual Cp	645	+5	..	..
11.00	M&G 2nd Dual In	110	..	27.7	..
130.00	M&G Dual Cap	3058	+20	..	..
12.90	M&G Dual Inc	225	..	..	..
65.40	M&G Inc Geared	65	+½	10.0	..
76.40	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cp	31	..	..	..
85.00	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inc	34½	..	19.1	..
188.10	M&G Inc Package	129	+½	5.0	..
160.80	M&G Inc Zero Div	65¼	+¼	..	..
32.30	M&G Rec Cap	24	..	..	..
492.50	M&G Rec Geared	49¼	-½	10.0	..
35.00	M&G Rec Inc	26	-½	20.2	..
154.90	M&G Rec Pacge	138	..	3.6	..
122.60	M&G Rec Zero Div	91	..	..	..
26.30	M Currie Euro	114	..	0.4	..
32.00	M Currie Japan	94	..	..	..
54.90	M Currie Pac	134	-1	6.1	..
114.90	Moedle	218	+1	3.4	..
9.02	Meralon	44	..	..	..
297.50	Merchants	231	+3	5.2	..
504.60	Mercury Euro Pv	87¼	-¼	2.0	..
29.60	Mercury Eur Wt	25¼	-¼	..	..
372.80	Mercury World	67¼	+½	0.9	..
12.50	Mercury Wld Wts	14½	-	..	..
438.40	Monks Inv Tst	565	-2	1.7	..
55.70	Mong Gen Inc	161½	..	4.0	..
2.31	Mong Wts	60	-2	..	..
36.30	Mong Lon Amer	56¼	+2	..	..
2.73	Mong Wts	21¼	..	..	..
32.60	Murray Ent	122	-1	2.4	..
1.06	Murray Ent Wts	22	-1	..	..
51.40	Murray Emg Eco	79	+2½	1.5	..
2.57	Murray Em Ec Wt	19¼	+¼	..	..
16.80	Murray Euro	55½	..	0.8	..
0.63	Murray Eu Wts	10½	..	..	..
320.70	Murray Income	372	+1	4.8	..
449.90	Murray Intl	374	..	4.2	..
11.60	Murray S/C DP	182	+½	..	..
8.06	Murray S/C Cap	144	..	..	..
5.84	Murray S/C Inct	73	..	17.8	..
1.57	Murray S/C Ulst	3025	..	0.4	..
242.90	Murray Smltt	433	-1	1.3	..
91.10	Murray Ventf	369	+4	4.1	..
5.43	Newmarket	15	+1	..	..
22.70	Nedbrg Inc	58	..	18.4	..
17.10	Nedbrg Cap	69	-1	..	..
137.20	O'seas Inv Tst	360	+9	1.2	..
2.89	O'seas Wts	161	..	..	..
189.70	Pacific Assets	119	+2½	0.3	..
28.50	Perpetual Jap	78	-1	..	..
14.90	Perpt UK Sm Co	287	..	1.0	..
21.20	Personal Assets	£106	+87½	2.4	..
38.70	Pilot Inv	107	..	3.2	..
78.20	Prolific Inc	111¼	..	4.0	..
374.50	RIT Cap Ptnr	207	+8	1.0	..
12.80	River Merc Am Cap	34	-½	..	..
7.72	River Merc Am Inc	103	..	9.5	..
0.71	River Merc Am Wts	9¼	..	..	..
52.30	River Merc Cap	130	..	..	..
33.40	River Merc Ex Inct	90	+1	10.8	..
0.60	River Merc Ex Inc Wt	18	..	..	..
11.80	River Merc Gwth Inc	84	+1	11.5	..
9.62	River Merc Gro Pd	27½	..	..	..
87.70	River Merc Tst Inc	109	..	10.8	..
35.00	River Merc Sm Co	135¼	-½	4.0	..
1.70	River Merc Sm Wt	36	..	..	..
	Robeco	450	+4	3.2	..
	Rolinco	472	+5	1.6	..
87.80	Schrod Inc Gwth	111	+2	..	..
110.00	Schrod Jap Gwth	88	+½	..	..
53.90	Schrod Korea	817	+11½	..	..
1.60	Schrod Medina	291	..	0.3	..
7.06	Schrod Split Cap	25	..	..	..
57.70	Schrod Split Inct	102	+1	9.6	..
48.20	Schrod Split Zero	127½	..	..	..
140.40	Schrod UK Gwth	119	..	2.5	..
708.50	Scot	250	+3	2.8	..
385.80	Scot American†	163½	+½	3.8	..
58.70	Scot Asian	270	+2	..	..
4.57	Scot Wts	653	+5	..	..
592.40	Scot Eastern	93½	..	2.2	..
889.90	Scot Mrgt	248½	+2	2.3	..
147.70	Scot Natl Tstt	92½	-½	10.4	..
58.30	Scot Value	112	-1	2.3	..
348.10	Second Allince	1813	+14	3.2	..
291.50	Secs Tst of Scott	91	..	4.6	..
41.60	Selective Assett	144	..	1.4	..
28.60	SHIRESCOTt	137	+¼	5.2	..
121.40	St Andrew Inv	352	..	3.0	..
223.30	Temple Bar	389	+1	4.5	..
121.30	Thrgtn Asian E	101½	+1	0.6	..
2.03	Thang Dual Cp	58	..	..	..
244.60	Throgmorton	80½	..	3.6	..
485.30	Tpltn Emg Mkt	121	+2	0.8	..
349.00	TR City Of Lont	169	+¼	4.0	..
113.40	TR Euro Growth	199	+¼	1.1	..
71.70	TR Far Eastt	158	+1	4.8	..
136.90	TR Pacific	101	-1½	0.2	..
134.10	TR Property	28½	+1½	4.3	..
359.10	TR Smlr Cos	201½	-2½	2.4	..
66.50	TR Tech Inv	183	..	1.9	..
19.40	Torkey Trust	198	-2	1.3	..
93.70	USDC Invest	256	+3	2.2	..
86.90	Undervalued Ast	115½	+½	1.9	..
56.10	Value Inc Tstt	125	+½	4.3	..
8.36	Voyageur Er Sm	83	..	0.8	..
25.60	Warrants & Val	33¼	+¼	..	..
12.20	Wigmore	60	..	1.7	..
958.90	Witan	255¼	+1½	3.1	..
20.90	Yeoman Inc	85	+7	21.8	..

LEISURE & HOTELS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
6.00	Abrdn Slk H	50	..	..	..
368.10	Airtours	319	-4	5.4	7.0
30.80	Aid Leis	44	..	..	16.8
161.10	Alpha Airport	114	+13	5.2	11.4
54.10	Arcadian	58	-2	1.7	..
8.82	BS Group	140	..	2.7	19.2
31.50	Baldwin	165	+5	3.3	13.3
30.20	Barr & Wall	203	-1	6.8	10.7
168.90	Bluebird Toys	349	-11	3.0	11.4
93.10	Boosey Hwks	475	..	1.6	26.0
4.60	Breal Walter	1¼	-	..	..
42.20	Burndene	40	+1	6.0	13.6
8.05	Castel Plc	8¼	+½	5.9	..
92.40	Chrysalis	346	..	..	..
185.60	City Centre Rest	96	+4	2.6	18.6
1,413.00	Compass Gp	449	+1	2.0	23.4
77.40	Eurocamp	229	-4	5.6	10.8
1,331.20	Euro Disney	174	-7	..	..
22.40	Euro Leisure	169	-1	..	5.1
147.50	First Choice▼	62	+1	7.1	12.1
567.70	First Leisure	347	+5	2.6	20.6
3,276.60	Forte†	346	+84	2.7	39.4
30.60	Friendly Hotels†	154	-4	4.6	18.0
3,808.30	Granada	651	-29	2.3	15.6
37.00	Groupe Chez Gr	198	+1	1.5	23.5
15.50	Hi-Tec Sports	30¼	+½	5.2	..
12.30	Hornby	148	-12	4.2	12.7
93.00	Jarys Hotel	219	+10½	3.5	14.0
55.20	Korlack	234	-1	3.9	25.9
290.30	London Clubs	410	-8	4.3	14.5
1,725.70	Ladbroke†	148	+21	5.1	45.0
1.65	Magnolia	29	..	0.4	..
120.40	Man Utd†	198	+1	2.8	8.3
508.50	Mandarin Orntl	73½	-½	4.8	16.1
34.60	My Kinda Townt	13½	..	2.7	13.7
45.70	Northern▼	95	-1	5.3	11.6
75.80	Pelican Gp	103	..	1.8	21.4
120.50	PizzaExpress	216	+5	1.3	25.6
10.50	Prism Leisure	124	-5	4.8	9.3
35.80	Queens Moat	9¼	+1	..	..
23.50	Ramsdens (H)	267	-1	2.1	31.4
3,269.80	Rank Org	393	+7	4.4	13.3
21.60	Ryan Hotels (£)	33	+2½	4.9	11.6
293.10	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1025	+142	0.9	54.1
409.10	SMG	85	+4	2.4	18.0
186.50	Stanley Leisure	348	+3	2.2	16.2
1,297.90	Tanjong	346	..	0.9	23.5
6,617.70	Thorn EMI	1539	+9	3.0	22.5
32.00	Tottenham Hot	200	+5	1.9	6.5
19.40	Toy Options	97	+10	3.4	14.4
94.90	VCI	244	+6	2.2	16.7
95.90	Vardon	109	-8	1.7	16.3
162.70	Wembley	303	+3	..	..
8.18	Zetters Gp	124	..	10.1	9.7

MEDIA

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
156.00	Abbott Mead	486	+1	2.0	28.8
47.20	Aircare	265	..	3.8	14.7
319.40	Aegis Gp	38¾	..	..	15.5
5.50	Allied Radio	4	..	..	..
0.83	BBB Design	10	..	..	..
53.10	Barbour Index	314	+16	3.6	38.7
7.56	Bristale	7¼	..	..	..
5.20	Black (A&C)	335	..	5.2	13.0
29.00	Blenheim Gp	246	-2	5.3	14.9
22.10	Border TV	217	-3	2.8	20.3
36.20	Bristol	345	+3	4.6	22.9
6,625.70	BSkyB	398	+2½	0.8	45.1
54.90	CIA Gp	133	+4	1.8	26.2
37.00	Caledonian Med	24½	..	..	..
340.90	Capital Radio	467	+3	2.8	..
2,228.40	Carlton Comms	969	-5	2.8	15.8
7.11	Cty of Lon	98	-2	7.1	11.2
385.70	Cordiant▲	87	+3	..	..
63.20	Daily Mail	1303½	..	1.6	18.0
1,134.80	Daily Mail 'A'	1137¼	+27½	1.8	15.8
357.80	Dorling Kindt	530	+21	0.9	43.2
1,153.60	EMAP	580	+7	2.5	21.6
5,707.59	Elsevier	868¼	+20½	2.6	21.7
205.70	Euromoney Pb	943	-10	5.8	13.4
8.01	Fitch	32½	..	..	14.8
539.60	Flextech	487	+2	..	..
63.50	GBT Group	238	..	2.8	19.3
109.80	GWR Gp	180	+8	1.5	31.8
8.08	Goodhead†	28	..	0.3	..
68.50	Grampian	204	+1	2.3	17.4
232.10	HTV Group	365	-12	1.3	28.3
45.20	Haynes Pub	299	+20	4.1	14.3
8.24	Highbury Hse	26	..	..	..
82.20	Hodder H'line	262	-2	2.8	18.2
14.00	Home Counts	140	..	4.9	16.0
116.70	IBC	300	-6	3.3	12.8
6.30	Incepta	9½	+½	..	4.6
462.50	Independent	395	+5	2.8	18.4
4.55	Interseoort	69	..	9.8	..
213.80	Johnston Press	160	-1	1.6	19.3
8.03	Lopex	17	-1	3.7	16.4
197.60	MAID	243	-58	..	..
63.10	Metal Bulletin	637	..	2.5	28.8
178.50	Midland Ind	128	+1½	3.3	13.4
781.10	Miller Gp	187	+12	2.5	12.2
148.90	More O'Ferrall	454	-3	3.7	18.7
6,521.00	News Corp	337	-27	0.4	10.1
2,065.00	News Intl	299	+16	1.4	11.8
4.84	Osprey Comms	18	-1	1.4	..
3,568.70	Pearson	643	-5	3.0	18.8
63.10	Photolink	158	..	..	..
69.60	Portsmth Sund	590	+5	2.8	14.5
47.10	Quarto	256	-7	3.1	12.9
5,712.10	Reed Intl	1011	+23	2.8	26.2
10,307.40	Reuters	615	-9	1.7	35.2
73.80	Scott Radio	300	..	2.4	21.5
280.40	Scot TV	480	-9	4.1	31.8
43.00	SelecTV	30	-1½	..	50.9
50.40	Shandwick	37	..	4.4	8.8
12.60	Sleepy Kids	42	-1	..	22.5
40.70	Southnews	259	+2	2.4	15.9
71.70	Sterling Pub	25	-5	3.8	..
5.80	Sussex & Yks	100	..	5.1	..
91.00	Taylor Nelson	41½	-½	2.1	27.1
578.80	Telegraph	425	-3	3.8	31.8
4,941.90	Thomson Corpt	845	+10	5.2	17.8
238.00	Trinity Intl	346	+10	3.9	13.3
180.60	Ulster TV	958	+1	2.9	18.6
1,390.90	United Newst	587	+9	5.1	14.9
12.00	VTR	115	+1	4.9	..
1,157.40	WPP†	157	-2	0.9	21.6
311.50	Yorkshire TV	612	-6	1.5	65.4

MINING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,023.40	Ang Am Coal	4062½	-237½	2.8	15.3
8,967.10	Ang Am	3843¾	-6¼	2.1	29.8
1,233.80	Ang Am Goldt	5103¾	-87½	4.3	14.7
20.60	Anglo Pac Res	26½	..	..	..
58.20	Aocm Intl	21	-1	..	..
994.50	Ashanti	1184¾	+9¾	1.4	14.0
243.30	Ashton	87	+2	6.0	..
51.90	Babyrchg	196	+4	..	..
519.40	Beatrix	552½	-3	3.9	25.6
3.25	Bisichi	31	..	2.9	..
20.30	Blyvoors	84½	-8¾	..	..
108.30	Bougainville	27	..	..	..
1.35	Bracken	9½	-4	8.1	..
25.50	Buffels	232½	-41½	..	..
4.79	Botu	2	..	..	..
6,052.70	CRA	1015	+2	2.8	23.9
61.20	Central Pacific	61	-1	..	..
67.90	Clolf Res	69	+2	..	..
63.70	Coal Inv	62	..	..	..
6.92	Cons Murchison	143	-25	4.3	3.9
7,128.90	De Beers	1875	-37½	2.8	21.0
49.10	Deelkraal	49¼	-2¼	1.8	..
1,478.60	Driefontein	724¼	-32¼	5.6	18.0
9.78	Durban	420¼	+9¼	..	..
71.40	E Rand Goldt	155¾	-13½	14.1	7.1
47.60	E Rand Prop	36	-½	..	..
55.30	Eastern Trans	84	..	1.8	62.4
334.00	Elandsrand	344¾	-14	2.8	11.9
1,004.00	Eng China Clr	328	-12	6.2	15.9
633.70	FS Const	532½	-47¼	5.1	19.6
8.69	FS Dev	40	+4	3.1	..
1,704.90	GFSA	1782½	+31½	2.2	24.0
534.70	GM Kalgoorli	56	-2	2.5	..
3,155.20	Gencor	227½	-7¼	1.5	30.3
15.50	Gold Fields Prop▼	152	+2	6.9	6.9
16.30	Greenwich R 'A'	14	..	..	..
15.30	Grootvlei	134	-15	6.5	17.0
60.20	Gwalia Cons	97	-3½	1.0	19.0
149.30	Harmony	559½	-43¼	1.3	16.2
174.40	Hartbst	156¼	-¼	9.5	11.7
855.90	Impala Plat	1353¼	-69¾	3.3	20.0
96.20	Kiston	77	-1	15.6	7.0
98.70	Kinross	550	-40½	8.0	6.6
876.90	Kloof	632¼	-60	5.3	19.0
10.80	Leslie	67¼	-¼	11.7	5.7
31.70	Loraine	193¼	+8¼	..	..
11.20	Meekatharra	13	..	..	..
1,379.40	MIM	86	-2	2.7	..
4,112.00	Minorco	1825	..	2.3	23.2
30.80	Monarch	57	-8	..	..
8.17	Montagle	125	+20	3.1	9.6
56.10	NSM	92	-1	7.6	8.1
1,271.80	Nth Brkn Hill	183	-3	2.8	27.1
219.80	Pancontinental	99	-1	..	..
44.00	Petaling Tin	218	+15	0.9	..
798.70	Placer Pac	129	-2	..	..
907.40	RJB	530	..	3.0	14.7
10,092.60	RTZ†	945	+36	3.3	13.7
7.73	Rastwood	48	-1	2.6	12.2
376.50	Rand Mines	631¼	-106¼	2.7	..
220.30	Randfontein	380¼	-46¼	9.5	15.1
603.70	Renison	300	+23	1.6	12.7
1,420.70	Rustnbrg	1112¼	-71¼	3.4	..
79.70	St Barbara	38	-1	3.7	8.6
31.60	St Helena	328½	-110½	16.6	5.0
229.50	Sons Gwalia	322	-6	3.7	21.0
66.70	Sthern Pacific				
401.90	Southvaal	1546¼	-25	4.9	20.3
8.37	Stillwater	64	+5	19.2	6.5
48.10	Unisel	171¼	-5¼	6.6	12.6
734.80	Vaal Reefs	3843¾	-312½	4.2	8.5
17.20	Wankie Col Z	17	+1	7.3	4.0
12.90	Water Hall	1½	..	..	..
107.60	Welkom Blake	515	+2	3.4	17.3
566.00	Western Deep	3043¾	-43¾	3.0	10.5
4,736.40	Western Mng	439¼	+8¼	1.3	44.5
60.50	Winkels	466½	-18¼	7.4	10.4
36.80	Zambia Copper	30	..	..	..
41.70	Zandpan	32	-1½	7.1	..

OIL & GAS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
56.70	Abbot Group	56	-1	..	..
199.40	Aran Energy	76¾	..	..	..
	Aus Oil & Gas	45	-3	..	..
17.30	Arrva Pet	55	..	..	..
130.30	Br Borneo	289	..	3.2	13.5
10,375.90	British Gas†	237	-½	7.6	15.9
28,171.50	Br Petroleum†	505¼	+14½	3.5	14.7
15.00	Bula Resources				
1,945.70	Burmah Castrl	968	-15	4.0	15.8
92.60	Cairn Energy	105	-3	..	..
389.20	Calor Gp	231	+1	6.8	12.8
208.50	Clyde Pet	51	..	2.8	10.7
15.00	Coplex Res	9	..	..	..
28.90	Dragon Oil	1½	..	..	..
7.66	Edin Oil & Gas	22	..	..	12.3
1,686.10	Enterprise	342	-1	5.8	19.4
57.90	Flogas	335	..	5.5	10.5
86.40	Fortune	8	+¼	..	59.0
88.60	Goal Pet	66	+½	2.8	10.7
15.80	Gt Western Res	14	-3	..	..
210.90	Hardy O & G	186	-1	0.7	..
9.33	Intl Pet & Sup	6¼	..	..	..
112.90	JKX Oil & Gas	105	-9	..	..
1,524.70	LASMO	158	+1	0.8	..
2.83	Lasmo Units	40	..	25.9	..
393.80	Monument	59	+¼	..	37.5
6,172.10	Norsk Hydro	2693¾	-110¾	1.6	14.7
12.30	Oceonics	38	-½	..	..
159.10	Oil Search	52	+2	..	..
	Ponsol	27½	-1¼	..	..
248.80	Premier	24½	-¼	..	14.9
2.80	Presidio#	11	..	..	..
24.20	Pittencrieff Rs	42	-1	1.5	..
74.30	Ramco Egy	385	+6	0.3	51.2
362.30	Ranger	308	+8	5.6	..
44,602.50	Royal Dtch Pl	8318¾	+128¼	4.3	15.3
10,292.50	Schlumberger	4228¼	+16¼	2.3	..
3.78	Scott Pickford	30	..	3.8	6.1
45.20	Seafield	88	..	..	46.1
26,370.80	Shell	795¼	+8	4.5	17.7
9,434.00	Total	4168¾	-146¼	3.8	14.7
14.70	Villers Gp	12½	..	..	..
2,066.70	Woodside	310	-2	1.2	..
56.70	XCL	30	..	..	..

OTHER FINANCIAL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
17.40	BWD	89	..	5.9	14.5
43.50	Ratbc Plc	144	+1	2.8	7.9
2.47	Berry Bck (N)	38	-1	8.6	10.8
136.60	Blotec Inv	230	..	..	..
31.90	Brown Dolphin	153	..	4.9	15.9
579.80	Caledonia	694	+12	3.1	21.3
58.00	Canellis	2000	..	2.3	18.4
25.80	Carlisle	15¾	-½	3.0	16.8
281.90	Cattles	207	..	3.7	18.3
5.68	Christie	24	..	..	..
8.19	EFG	17½	+2	3.6	3.5
43.50	EFT Group	87	..	2.8	15.7
127.90	EFM	674	-19	4.5	15.8
147.80	Exco	120	-21	8.2	8.1
572.30	Gartmore	284	-1	2.4	24.8
168.60	Govett	240	+12	7.7	3.9
367.60	Henderson Ad	1233	-1	4.5	24.9
694.30	Invesco	264	+4	2.3	18.2
11.70	Investment Co.	42½	-1½	6.9	12.8
71.79	Ivory Sime	229	-1	4.1	17.0
1,698.00	Jardine Sicd	169¾	-1½	5.5	5.5
20.10	Johnson Fryt	133	..	3.8	9.3
215.20	Lon Forfaiting	212	..	5.6	15.1
101.10	Lon Scot Bk	165	..	3.3	19.2
439.60	Man ED & F	170	+1	7.1	7.8
937.70	M & G	1257	-8	3.1	22.0
1,118.30	MAI	340	..	3.2	16.9
	MAI 5.9% Cv Pf	129½	+2	5.8	..
1,571.30	MAM†	861	-17	4.0	19.0
81.70	Nat Home Loan	93	-1	..	1.2
458.10	Perpetual	1646	-19	3.1	..
1,890.30	Provident	807	+1	3.9	17.7
73.90	Rathbone Bs	313	..	3.8	16.1
93.10	Rutland Tst	40	-1	4.1	17.4
25.60	S & U	302	-3	5.4	8.9
320.80	SJP Capital	117	+1	3.2	21.8
4,473.70	Swire Pacific	450¾	+13	2.6	18.3
7.24	Trinity Law	47	..	6.6	..
947.40	Transatlantic	345	+2	5.1	23.1
7.51	Tdo Hldgs	9	-1	1.4	14.8
3.30	Western Selectn	22	..	1.4	..

PHARMACEUTICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
482.50	Brit Biotech	997	+17	..	..
35.10	Cantab Pharms	325	-5	..	..
359.10	Celltech	503	+12	..	..
195.20	Chiroscience	397	-1	..	..
184.60	Cortecs	149	+2	..	..
1,624.20	Fisons	264	..	1.2	..
30,800.00	Glaxo Wellcome	880	-5½	4.3	20.1
872.80	Medeva	275	+2	1.8	17.7
485.90	Scotia	627	-22	..	..
9,625.30	SmithKline†	689	+1½	2.4	20.5
8,803.20	SmithKline Ulst	672	-4½	2.6	20.0
12,235.20	Zeneca	1292	-4	2.7	36.3

PRINTING & PAPER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
24.50	AG Holdings	136	-1	5.4	..
115.50	API	532	+12	2.2	23.4
1,527.10	Arjo Wiggins	186	-6½	5.0	8.4
8.09	Ashquay Grp	48	+1	..	..
36.50	Aspen Comts	245	..	2.9	18.2
127.80	Bemrose	398	-1	4.2	12.8
970.30	Bowater Inc	2650	+131¼	..	..
147.10	Bowpore Intl	419	-8	1.4	19.7
280.10	Br Polymerst	638	-29	2.8	14.6
4.18	Br Thornton	26	..	9.8	8.8
213.40	Bilton Grp	154	..	2.2	16.4
781.60	Bunzl†	176	-3½	3.7	12.1
48.10	Capital Indst	168	-2	3.7	12.0
2,327.70	Carnaud MD	2887½	-9¾	2.8	17.2
22.70	Cropper (James)	273	-34	1.7	18.1
1,380.10	De La Rue	713	-198	4.1	14.9
6.45	Delyn Groupt	75	+12	2.9	10.9
27.60	Dolphin Pack	118	+7	5.0	14.9
31.10	Fairway Group	85	..	4.9	13.9
92.90	Ferguson Intl	230	-3	7.2	10.1
25.70	Ferry Pick	192	+58	3.9	17.2
92.60	Inveresk	176	-10	4.0	15.7
133.10	Jarvis Porter	285	+3	2.8	15.1
455.00	Low & Bonar	461	-22	3.2	13.9
86.50	MY Holdings	64	-4	4.0	..
238.30	Macfarlane	186	-12	2.2	18.5
32.80	Photobition	317	+23	2.4	21.3
90.20	Plysu	189	-5	4.6	21.1
1,718.60	REXAM	341	-31	5.2	11.0
455.00	St Ives Grp	455	+15	2.3	17.9
1,575.40	Sappi	1049¼	-70¼	0.5	..
5.20	Seil	7	..	..	..
94.80	Sellart	138	-3½	10.0	..
769.50	Smith David	245	-30½	3.3	9.7
1,754.80	Smurfit (Jeff)	163	-5	2.9	9.5
1.88	Somict	84	+1½	4.5	7.2
182.10	Waca	232	-12	3.0	11.6
231.50	Waddingtons (J)	222	-5½	4.9	13.7
289.70	Watmough	426	+3	2.5	18.2
57.00	Wyndeham†	190	+1½	3.0	17.2

PROPERTY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
45.20	Allied Lont	65	-1	7.7	5.9
164.20	Argent	299	..	..	..
13.00	Artesian Ests	74	..	2.5	17.8
94.40	Azda	120	..	2.8	30.0
184.60	Billont	210	-1	5.9	14.9
66.20	Birkby	136	-4	6.8	8.3
8.67	Bolton Gp	23	+2	..	..
28.70	Bourne Endt	47	+½	3.1	93.9
270.30	Bradford	185	+1	5.1	16.9
6.86	Brightstone	98	..	5.0	45.2
1,374.20	Br Land	372	-22	2.5	37.4
398.10	Brixton†	170¼	+¼	6.2	15.8
406.00	Burford	136½	-2	1.7	38.5
101.40	CLS Hldgst	96	+1	6.6	13.1
67.30	Cap & Regnl†	148	..	1.9	16.0
728.40	Cap Shop Ctrs	200	-2	4.4	23.6
5.36	Cardiff Prop	153	..	2.1	27.7
29.50	Cathay Intl	10½	-1	..	..
273.00	Chelsfield	174	+4	1.9	38.1
83.30	Chesterfield†	425	+¼	3.8	18.5
38.00	Chesterton Intl	67	..	5.6	..
6.16	City Site Ests	39	..	..	9.1
12.70	Clarke Nickolls	7½	+¼	3.7	10.6
21.40	Compco	102	+1	4.1	12.9
29.90	Con Ritblat	25	+2	2.9	27.9
189.10	Daejan	1160	-5	3.4	11.2
13.70	Darts Estates	3	..	..	..
30.30	Debenham Tewn	48	-2	9.1	8.8
25.50	Dencora	137	-1	3.4	13.5
119.50	Derwent Hldgs	308	+5	2.1	16.1
50.80	Development Sec	175	..	1.7	..
16.90	Dwyer	33	..	4.3	12.0
10.40	Elezo	38	..	..	19.7
18.50	Estates Agency	325	..	5.3	..
2.78	Estates Gen	13	..	..	..
148.20	Evans Of Leeds	111	+3	3.1	17.6
36.90	Ex-Lands	22	-1	2.9	..
23.90	Fecal Prop	54½	..	4.4	16.8
21.90	Five Oakst	21	..	4.2	..
1.57	Fletcher King	18	..	6.9	..
6.73	Fowes Groupt	69	..	3.6	7.8
13.50	Folkes Group nvt	56	-1	3.6	7.4
228.30	Frogmore	446	+12½	5.1	..
58.80	Grainger	245	..	3.1	13.5
530.70	Gt Portlandt	164	-1	6.7	13.0
184.30	Greycoat	143½	+7½	0.6	..
123.60	Hariloes Cttys	35	..	0.2	..
955.10	Hammerson	337	-5	3.7	23.5
52.60	Halcal Bar	323	..	2.6	12.5
27.50	Hemingway	22¼	..	3.1	15.4
2.09	Herring Baker#	10¼	-	..	..
1.35	High-Point	2	-2	2.4	..
2,978.80	HK Land	110¼	+10¼	6.7	12.5
16.00	Jermyn	180	..	2.0	..
4.85	Kentfl	1	..	..	..
3,065.10	Land Sec	601	+8	5.3	17.3
44.20	London Intt	285	-1½	4.8	15.2
22.98	Lon & Assoct	31	-½	2.7	16.2
2.38	Lon & Metro	5	..	..	..
218.60	Lon Merch Sec	89¼	..	6.1	20.1
1,591.40	MEPC	391	+3	6.4	21.3
3.31	McInerney A	5¼	..	..	..
31.10	McKay Secs	139	-4	5.0	16.9
12.60	Merivale Mre	74	-1	6.7	10.7
18.40	Moorfield Est	27	..	4.6	14.6
46.50	Mountview	1012½	-37½	3.4	7.3
131.80	Mucklow (A&J)t	135	+3	6.0	18.4
3.31	ORB	0¼	..	..	..
13.40	Olives Prop	36	..	1.4	33.3
157.10	PST	139	..	5.2	15.2
244.00	Peel	312	..	3.2	..
168.70	Pillar Prop	149	+1	2.5	40.8
2.33	Power Corp#	3	..	..	..
18.70	Premier Land▲	4¼	..	..	14.9
20.40	RPS Group	108	+2	3.6	14.2
35.40	Raglan	32	-1	5.7	6.9
27.50	Regalian	25¼	+½	..	27.0
17.90	Rowlinson Secs	143	..	2.0	11.1
16.70	Rugby Ea	93	..	2.8	8.2
63.40	St Modwen Prp	54	+3	4.2	7.9
58.00	Savills Gdn (J)	57	..	6.6	13.3
20.70	Sands	53	+5	5.9	9.6
91.30	Scot Met†	70	-1	4.5	10.8
58.90	Shaftesbury	121	..	1.5	20.4
786.80	Slough Estates	202	..	5.0	24.6
21.90	Smart (J)†	217	-3½	5.2	..
44.40	Southend Prop	41	-3	7.7	..
23.20	Specity Shops	105	..	1.5	14.6
123.30	TBI	56	+1	0.4	40.1
63.40	Tops Ests	137	..	2.1	25.3
119.80	Town Centre	93	+6	4.5	14.2
66.70	Trafford Park	57	-2	4.3	..
5.14	Uk Land	48	..	2.6	5.4
12.80	WSP Group	46	-3	5.7	10.3
98.70	Warner	203	..	7.0	17.2
78.70	Warnford	205	..	4.8	16.5
135.90	Wates	68½	..	..	..
1.85	Whitney Mck	28	..	..	..
3.53	Wood John D	45	..	5.8	10.7

RETAILERS, FOOD

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
3,025.30	ASDA Group	103½	+4	2.7	17.6
3,331.60	Argyll	329½	-5½	5.1	12.5
345.60	Brake Bros†	671	+7½	1.6	20.2
53.70	Budgen	33	-½	4.2	31.1
4.09	Cullens	15½	..	4.0	21.8
842.30	Dairy Farm Intl	49	-1½	7.8	7.1
71.20	Fanpub	307	..	3.1	15.0
126.30	Flowfton	50	..	5.7	21.2
281.90	Fyffes	100	+3	2.0	14.3
102.00	Geest	142	+25	7.1	56.7
130.90	Greggs	1148	..	2.6	15.8
446.20	Iceland Group	159	+5	4.1	9.6
887.90	Kwik Save	571	-25	4.5	10.2
13.60	Merchant Retail	16	+½	..	11.1
1,047.10	Morrison (W)	142	-4½	1.1	14.1
215.20	Nurdin Peack	168	-8	5.2	17.9
145.30	Park Foods	90	..	4.0	15.5
2.04	Regina Hlth	13	..	..	..
6,858.20	Sainsbury J†	376	-6	4.0	12.5
6,068.00	Tesco†	286	+2½	3.9	13.6
88.70	Thorntons†	138	+2	4.8	15.8
216.10	Watson& Philip	505	+4	3.9	17.7

RETAILERS, GENERAL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
42.50	Alexon	74	+8	..	..
210.90	Alders	196	+18	4.4	11.0
1,743.30	Argos Plc	572½	+22½	2.6	24.2
355.40	Ashley (Laura)	130	+1	..	..
199.40	Aspery	249	+2	0.6	34.2
57.40	Austin Reedt	184	-2	4.1	10.6
55.40	Beattie (J) 'A'	135	+3	6.0	14.9
42.40	Bentalls	101	-1	2.7	11.0
84.30	Blacks Leis	80¼	+12	4.0	46.2
15.90	Blacks Lais	50	+2½	5.7	25.3
288.60	Body Shop†	152	+2	2.1	9.0
5,597.80	Boots†	588	+16	3.7	16.2
29.78	Brown & Jackson	24	-1	..	..
389.80	Brown (N)†	267	-1½	2.4	20.3
1,729.80	Burton	121¾	+9¾	2.3	24.5
16.60	Caskets	110	+12	3.4	19.0
302.60	Carpetright	394	+10	3.3	23.5
332.70	Christies Intl	203	-3	1.4	34.5
41.40	Church	380	-3	4.5	15.6
18.40	Clinton Cards	102	..	6.0	12.8
26.58	C'ty Campbell	129	..	4.9	..
181.30	Courts Fursh	740	..	1.1	21.6
3.12	Crown Eye	195	..	6.7	8.0
303.30	DFS Furniture	378	+24	2.7	22.8
1,701.90	Dixons Gp	434	+3	2.1	32.6
8.96	Ells (Monson)	580	..	3.4	36.9
12.30	ERA Gp	8¼	..	..	15.1
12.90	Essex Furn	112	-2	4.9	..
110.40	Etam	168	+3	4.7	..
322.40	Fine Art Dev	491	+16	4.6	12.2
3.76	Fired Earth	66	..	1.9	23.8
25.10	Flying Flowers	138	+1	1.9	18.0
33.60	French Conn	183	..	..	11.9
204.70	Frost Group	218	..	3.7	18.0
18.00	Gieves	79	..	3.2	17.8
47.10	Goldsmiths Grt	212	+11	2.0	19.2
6,036.00	GUS†	600	+11	3.1	16.3
76.60	Hamleys	336	+11	2.8	15.0
10.80	Hampden Grpt	72	+1	2.6	13.9
355.90	Hse of Fraser†	159	+8	4.4	20.8
12.20	Hughes (TJ)t	58	..	5.6	13.0
20.60	Innovations	147	..	1.5	74.4
151.50	JJB Sports	505	+8	1.5	28.6
3,572.50	Kingfisher†	534	+22	3.6	17.8
35.80	Kingsbury Grp	151	+8	2.8	21.3
71.50	Liberty	318	-20	2.8	29.7
314.70	Lloyds Chemt	258	+3	4.9	8.7
908.40	MFI	156	-9	3.4	28.5
12,774.60	Marks Spencer†	463	+10	2.9	19.6
348.60	Menzies (John)	627	-2	2.6	14.0
98.40	Moss Bros	579	..	3.0	18.9
1,714.80	Next	458	+18	2.8	25.0
2.56	OEM	42	-1	..	..
10.90	Oliver (G)	43	-1	2.9	47.9
161.80	Ottakars Intl	340	..	4.1	13.6
15.70	Partridge Fine	71	..	5.8	9.8
23.70	QS Hldgst	69	..	10.8	15.7
44.50	Raine Grp▲	17	+4½	..	..
42.80	Rosebys	192	..	3.2	22.2
1,536.20	Sears†	101	+1	4.8	16.1
44.00	Signet Group	15	+1½	..	..
1,194.70	Smith WH	427	+22	4.6	15.1
307.00	Sotheby's†	905	+7	1.7	73.6
1,423.20	Storehouse	340	+24	2.4	20.8
54.40	Style	120	-1	4.9	10.3
118.50	T & S Stores†	182	-2	4.6	11.5
33.60	Tie Rack	163	+1	2.1	17.0
4.75	Upton & South	2¼	..	..	..
3,823.30	Vendome	548	-4	2.1	18.9
26.20	WEW Groupt	18	-1	4.9	..
6.41	Wid of Leather	53	..	3.5	64.1
71.40	Wyevale	188	+4	3.4	16.6

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,087.30	Allied Domecq	492	-8	6.1	19.3
261.90	Bulmer (HP)	496	-1	3.0	16.7
81.80	Burn Stewart	138	-1	4.5	28.7
8,931.30	Grand Met	430	-10	4.2	19.8
9,289.90	Guinness	458	-12	3.8	14.2
482.20	Highland Distl	347	+5	2.9	15.5
239.50	Macallan-Glen	204	-1	0.8	46.2
88.40	Macdn Mtn 'A'	645	+5	2.7	18.1
584.20	Matthew Clark	852	-26	4.0	..
14.00	Merydew W	138	-1	1.0	..
277.20	Taunton Cider	252	-7	3.5	24.6

SUPPORT SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,263.60	ADT	910	-8	..	..
10.80	Alphameric	26	..	1.2	19.5
28.70	Auto Sec	24	-2	..	7.3
1,197.10	BET Ord†	136	-7½	4.2	12.8
27.90	BNB Rest	130	..	5.5	10.2
75.20	BPP	286	-1	4.4	16.5
41.90	BSM	150	-2	5.5	11.4
48.00	Black & Edg#	9	+¼	..	..
298.20	Borland	1050	-50	..	..
32.50	Brit Data Mgt	130	-5	5.2	29.4
10.80	Brooks Servicet	90	-6	3.5	18.9
81.70	CRT Grpt	121	..	3.9	19.2
153.20	Capita Group	278	-1	1.6	25.8
4.19	Cardinal Bus	16	-7	..	..
812.00	Chubb Sec	325	+1	2.8	17.2
72.20	Corp Services	88	..	4.4	14.7
25.00	Coutts Cnslg	54	..	3.9	..
16.80	DCS Grpt	89	-5	2.1	25.0
219.80	Davis Service	214	-6	5.1	12.6
82.30	Delphi	324	..	1.4	40.1
12.50	Dudley Jenkins	99	-1	4.3	15.2
9.10	EW Fact	50	-1	7.4	6.9
40.80	El Data Prc	156	-18	1.6	16.2
1,547.10	Hays†	379	-21½	2.3	20.3
168.10	Hogg Robinson	193	-3	4.9	12.3
339.70	ISS B DKr	1309¾	-65¾	2.0	11.6
138.10	JBA Hldgst	405	+3	1.1	42.8
119.00	Johnson Clean	240	+16	5.6	13.6
17.70	Kalamazoo	91	-2	5.4	9.0
39.90	Kewill Sys	321	-19	2.7	11.2
5.66	Laser-Scan	19	..	..	..
81.20	LIMS	317	+2	..	..
278.60	Logica	445	-17	1.8	28.7
70.00	MDIS	70	..	9.2	15.3
26.00	MMT Comp	222	-1	3.6	..
36.80	MR Data Mngt	66	-3	6.8	46.9
89.00	Macro 4	410	-3	8.7	11.1
1,394.40	Manpowert	1875	-28¾	0.5	..
92.60	Micro Focus	613	-57	..	..
87.60	Microgen	172	+5	5.3	14.8
495.50	Misys	591	+18	2.0	16.8
72.90	MITIE Gp	288	..	1.3	23.7
16.30	Nova Group	30	..	3.8	9.7
5.70	OIS Intl	19	+2	2.0	..
14.40	Oriis	28	-2	2.3	15.5
125.60	P & P	158	+11	2.2	16.1
98.70	Michael Page	161	-3	2.6	18.0
73.30	Parity	175	+18	1.4	21.4
14.40	Pegasus	228	-3	2.7	16.4
4.18	Penna	76	..	1.6	..
18.20	Proudfoot	23	-2	10.9	..
22.00	RCO	208	..	8.7	8.2
15.80	Radius	57	+2	2.5	15.8
12.50	Real Time	178	..	3.2	8.9
53.20	Reed Executive	104	+3	2.4	11.9
48.40	Reliance Sec	214	..	3.4	20.2
3,181.80	Rentokil	323	+6	1.4	25.0
66.60	Ricardo Groupt	150	..	5.2	16.6
32.20	Rolfe & Nolan	258	-8	1.9	38.5
297.20	Sage Gp	278	-5	1.0	23.0
699.10	Salvesen (C)	240	-13½	4.4	12.3
58.20	Sanderson Elec	136	+5	2.9	17.6
115.80	Select App	16¼	+½	..	29.2
486.20	Serna Gp	520	+10	1.1	24.8
222.00	Serco Gp	375	-3	1.4	29.4
12.50	Shield Crsp	176	+6	1.6	..
83.70	Slatchley	130	-2	3.4	16.7
5.01	Standard Plat	16	..	..	..
44.30	Stat-Plus	206	..	6.0	18.9
144.20	Unipalm	700	-165	..	..
28.50	Vistect	23	+2½	3.9	..
58.80	Warner Howard	247	-½	4.2	11.7

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
22,675.50	BT	360½	-½	6.3	12.7
9,993.70	Cable Wireless	452	+35	2.6	19.1
494.10	General Cable	195	..	..	..
1,049.00	NYNEX Cable	136	-2	..	..
70.50	Securicor	1698	..	0.3	37.2
751.10	Securicor 'A'	925	-55	0.5	30.3
981.10	Security Serv	895	-45	0.9	23.1
1,490.40	TeleWest	182	-7½	..	..
6,642.40	Vodafone	217½	-33	2.1	26.5

TEXTILES & APPAREL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1.90	Albion	50	..	6.0	2.7
60.50	Alendra Wt	179	+12	4.3	16.6
159.40	Allied Ted	227	+3	3.8	13.3
3.60	Atkins	109	..	9.3	20.1
1.51	Automagic#	26	..	..	6.6
237.80	Baird (Wm)	305	-6	5.8	14.3
7.08	Beckman (A)†	59	..	5.3	..
152.10	Black (Peter)	274	+1½	3.3	17.5
15.70	Bridport-Gndry	155	..	2.6	18.0
21.00	Br Mohair	173	..	6.5	10.8
3.81	Campari	27	..	..	..
29.00	Chamo Phlips	65	..	15.4	3.0
164.10	Claremont Grp	300	+2	3.9	14.4
1,220.50	Coats Viyella†	174½	-13½	6.2	11.7
436.30	Courtaulds Text	421	-3	4.5	12.1
14.50	Dalyan	121	-4	6.2	6.7
220.90	Dawson	113	-½	3.4	..
235.90	Dewhirst (I)	182	+2	2.1	17.5
3.81	Dnbe Healt	31	-1½	5.6	7.9
5.94	Drummond	28	..	3.3	8.9
2.54	Ebeof	20	+4	..	..
2.92	Faupel	25	-12	19.3	4.8
64.70	Fili	420	-5	4.4	..
15.50	Formentas	152	..	2.7	11.8
1.79	Foster (John)	18	..	..	..
8.14	French	69	..	6.6	14.1
31.90	Gent SR	88	..	3.6	8.0
27.60	Haggast	126	+6	3.0	..
47.00	Hartstone	14½	..	2.8	45.0
31.80	Helene Pict	16	..	14.0	7.0
66.90	Hicking Pntcst	256	+3	2.4	18.9
20.80	Hollas	15½	..	4.5	..
2.94	Honeysuckler	35	-4	7.7	8.1
30.70	Hoctor Smart	89¼	+¼	..	7.2
17.30	Jacques Vert	182	..	4.6	8.4
6.07	Jerome (S)	69	+3	3.2	6.9
72.70	Jones Stroud	420	+10	3.0	15.6
18.30	Lambert	140	..	6.3	10.8
74.60	Lamont†	248	..	6.5	9.8
74.00	Leeds	249	-1	3.2	12.9
18.80	Leslie Wlsa Gp	54	..	9.8	8.9
4.10	Lyles (S)	57	..	..	..
46.20	Marling	25¼	-¼	3.2	13.4
1.51	PEX	7½	..	..	..
16.80	Parkland	183	..	3.9	7.8
412.00	Pentland	114	..	3.5	16.4
10.20	Pizzrot	47	..	3.3	..
133.00	Readicut	67½	-½	6.4	17.8
10.60	Renrore	67½	-1½	6.4	7.0
9.59	Rectorte	41	..	6.1	15.3
3.20	SEET	64	-1	..	..
136.90	Sherwood Gp	113	-3	3.7	13.6
6.15	Slatot	106	-2	4.4	7.0
49.20	Sedar	91	..	7.5	24.5
33.40	Sumng Gp	45	-1	5.7	9.8
32.40	Strong & Fisher	19	..	7.9	19.1
7.70	Un. Safer	20	..	14.8	24.9
13.00	Lener (Frank)	180	-5	6.9	9.1
8.05	Warcon	106	..	5.2	10.4
36.60	Yorklyde	327	..	2.9	11.5

TRANSPORT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
10.20	Air London†	113	+20	4.4	..
9,052.40	All Nippon Air	627½	+9½	0.3	..
1,073.30	Assoc Br Ports	282	-17	2.9	16.9
5,103.40	BAA†	495	+½	2.7	16.7
4,497.70	Br Airways†	469	-3	3.4	11.7
18.80	Cenral Tran R	17	..	..	..
23.50	Clarkson (H)	106	-2	3.0	17.1
70.10	Clydeport	170	..	2.6	15.7
32.60	Dart	209	+8	3.0	13.1
450.60	Eurotunnel Uts	98	+2	..	..
393.30	FirstBus	144	+3	..	..
19.30	Fisher (James)	80	..	3.9	..
279.50	Forth Ports	615	+17	2.3	16.7
107.70	Go Ahead†	295	..	2.3	20.5
137.40	Goode Durrant	254	-1	2.0	10.9
33.60	Intl Steam	112	..	3.5	12.5
120.60	Irish Cont	478	..	4.9	27.0
43.50	Jacobs	63	-1	1.0	11.9
61.40	Lon O'Seas Frts	84	-1	2.1	..
392.90	Mersey Docks	439	-2	0.8	17.3
1,062.90	NFC†	153	-2	3.1	16.8
372.30	Natl Express	383	-4	5.8	15.7
589.80	Ocean Group	381	-16	2.9	15.1
35.30	Ocean Wilson	89	-1	4.7	23.3
2,995.80	P & O Dfd	496	..	6.0	3.5
120.50	P & O 5.5%	181	-16	7.7	13.2
15.90	Seacon	54	-1	3.8	..
94.50	Sea Containers	235	+1	4.4	36.4
417.90	Stagecoach	279	+4½	2.0	32.2
514.70	TNT	90	-2	2.4	18.3
181.20	Tibbet & Britn	410	-10	4.9	13.3
297.50	TDG	194	-½	6.1	12.8
17.50	Ucaric▼	72	-3	3.8	11.9
21.30	Wid Carriers	86	-3	7.1	18.3

WATER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,553.70	Anglian†	578	+3	5.8	8.8
51.60	Bst Fenl Hdgs	358	..	4.4	9.7
3,214.00	North West▼	603	+20	5.6	7.7
816.60	Northumbrian†	1169	+48	3.2	9.1
2,429.50	Severn Trent	662	+17	5.5	8.2
125.70	South Staffs	2300	+15	4.9	13.3
636.10	South West	500¾	+1½	6.8	7.0
1,159.20	Southern	675	+4	4.8	8.7
2,332.70	Thames†	558	-1	5.9	7.6
357.00	Wessex	699	-1	7.7	8.2
140.50	Welsh Wtr Pf	1065	+1¼	9.6	..
73.50	Wrexham	343	+1	4.8	8.6
1,140.50	Yorkshire	609	+5	5.7	9.7

Source: Ferex

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BRITISH FUNDS

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)					
770	Treas 14% 1996	101[illegible]	-[illegible]	13.85	6.52
1,150	Treas 15¼% 1996	103[illegible]	-[illegible]	14.65	6.10
800	Exch 13¼% 1996	103[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.84	6.29
3,409	Conv 10% 1996	103[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.66	6.23
1,988	Treas 7% 1997	101[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.93	6.30
1,290	Treas 13¼% 1997	107[illegible]	+[illegible]	12.31	6.21
3,700	Exch 10½% 1997	104[illegible]		10.01	6.27
5,550	Treas 8¾% 1997	102[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.42	6.39
830	Exch 15% 1997	115[illegible]	-[illegible]	13.03	6.45
3,550	Exch 9¾% 1998	106[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.17	6.51
8,750	Treas 7¼% 1998	101[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.15	6.57
1,300	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.74	6.72
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	116[illegible]	+[illegible]	12.01	6.69
935	Treas 15½% 1998	122[illegible]	+[illegible]	12.67	6.71
3,903	Exch 12% 1998	114	+[illegible]	10.53	6.75
7,900	Treas 9½% 1999	107[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.83	6.76
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	115[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.57	6.84
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	111[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.44	6.85
6,600	Treas 6% 1999	97[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.17	6.88
1,798	Conv 10¼% 1999	111[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.21	6.96
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)					
5,358	Conv 9% 2000	107[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.38	6.99
4,800	Treas 8% 2000	104[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.67	7.03
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	123	+[illegible]	10.57	7.08
4,408	Treas 10% 2001	112[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.92	7.17
7,750	Treas 7% 2001	99[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.07	7.22
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	112[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.67	7.37
8,600	Treas 8% 2003	103[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.75	7.44
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	114[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.72	7.48
1,620	Treas 11½% 2001-04	118[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.73	7.31
543	Fund 3½% 1999-04	81[illegible]	+[illegible]	4.31	6.31
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	112[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.48	7.61
6,500	Treas 6¾% 2004	94[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.15	7.62
4,960	Treas 8½% 2005	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.01	7.63
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	112[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.47	7.57
2,200	Treas 12½% 2003-05	129[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.69	7.58
3,000	Treas 7¾% 2006	99	+[illegible]	7.58	7.84
3,900	Treas 7¾% 2006	100[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.73	7.71
2,080	Treas 8% 2002-06	102[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.82	7.67
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	122[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.56	7.54
7,397	Treas 8½% 2007	105[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.03	7.73
1,250	Treas 13½% 2004-08	135[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.93	7.60
5,621	Treas 9% 2008	109[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.19	7.76
3,450	Treas 8% 2009	101[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.87	7.79
LONGS (over 15 years)					
4,750	Treas 6¼% 2010	86[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.26	7.84
5,273	Conv 9% 2011	110[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.16	7.84
5,360	Treas 9% 2012	110[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.13	7.84
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	80[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.80	7.53
6,100	Treas 8% 2013	101[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.87	7.83
805	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	98[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.85	7.84
9,580	Treas 8% 2015	101[illegible]	+1	7.85	7.80
7,550	Treas 8¾% 2017	109[illegible]	+1[illegible]	8.01	7.85
1,000	Exch 12% 2013-17	139[illegible]	+1[illegible]	8.63	7.90
UNDATED					
1,909	War Ln 3½%	44[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.89	..
475	Treas 2½%	31[illegible]	...	8.05	...
359	Consols 4%	49[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.08	...
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:				10%	5%
1,200	Treas IL 2% 1996	214[illegible]	+[illegible]	...	2.23
800	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	111[illegible]	-[illegible]	1.61	2.75
1,700	Treas IL 2½% 2001	177[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.88	3.38
1,760	Treas IL 2½% 2003	173[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.06	3.45
1,000	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	114[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.18	3.45
1,950	Treas IL 2% 2006	182[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.19	3.47
2,050	Treas IL 2½% 2009	165[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.26	3.49
2,350	Treas IL 2½% 2011	171[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.29	3.50
2,750	Treas IL 2½% 2013	141[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.34	3.52
3,050	Treas IL 2½% 2016	150[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.39	3.57
2,900	Treas IL 2½% 2020	140[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.45	3.60
2,700	Treas IL 2½% 2024	120[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.44	3.57
1,300	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	119½	+[illegible]	3.44	3.57

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RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Atreus, British Inv Trst, Dee Valley Water, European Colour, Field Group, Gibbs Mew, Marling Industries, Merrydown, Neepsend, Nintendo, Photobition Group, Rainford Group, Christian Salvesen, Arthur Shaw & Co, Tinsley Robor, Vibroplant, Yasuda Trust & Banking. **Finals:** Ashbourne, Foreign & Colonial Pep Inv Trust, Moran Holdings, NatWest Irish Smaller Companies, Sanderson Electronics, Tunstall Group.
Economic statistics: EU finance ministers meeting.

TOMORROW

Interims: Abtrust Lloyd's IT, Barlo Group, Edinburgh Income Trust, Falcon, Intnl Tool & Supply, Invesco Blue Chip Trust, E D & F Man, Monks Inv Trust, Norcros, Pex, Severn Trent, Wessex Trust. **Finals:** Concentric, Euromoney Publications, Morland & Co, Mountview Estates.
Economic statistics: The Budget, major British banking groups' mortgage lending (October).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Andrews Sykes, Argyll Group, Bandt, CPL Aromas, Evans of Leeds, Johnson Matthey, Marston Thompson & Ever, Mid Kent Hldgs, Northamber, Shield Diagnostics, John Waddington, Wainhomes, Yorkshire Water. **Finals:** JLI Group, National Home Loans, Tate & Lyle.
Economic statistics: Gilt auction details (December 6).

THURSDAY

Interims: BPB Industries, British Biotech, Bristol Evening Post, Castings, European Motor Holdings, Firth, GEI Intl, Hogg Robinson, Leopold Joseph, Merchant Retail, Metrotect Industries, ML Holdings, OMI International, RPC, Secure Retirement, South West Water, Stagecoach Holdings, 3i, Tops Estates. **Finals:** Fenchurch, Grand Metropolitan, Hanson, MEPC, RM, Royal Bank of Scotland, Scottish Inv Trust, Scottish Radio.
Economic statistics: Economic trends (November), economic trends annual supplement (1996), energy trends (October), new vehicle registrations (October).

FRIDAY

Interims: Ascot Holdings, Cater Allen Holdings, Hicking Pentecost, New London Capital, Vendome Luxury Group. **Finals:** Chrysalis Group, Fleming Indian Inv, Henderson Strata Inv Trust, McCarthy & Stone.
Economic statistics: Balance of UK trade (September), purchasing managers' index (November), credit business (October).

COMPANIES — PHILIP PANGALOS



Less-spirited year at GrandMet



Lord Sheppard, head of GrandMet, is predicted to fatten the dividend from less profit

GRAND METROPOLITAN: The food and drinks group, headed by Lord Sheppard, is expected to report a slide in full-year profits on Thursday, hit by the loss of distribution rights for Absolut Vodka and weak spirits sales and prices in Europe.

SBC Warburg has pencilled in a dip in pre-exceptional final pre-tax profits to £908 million (£920 million), though an increased 9.4p (8.8p) final is predicted, giving 14.9p (13.95p) for the year. Market forecasts range from £905 million £920 million, excluding an exceptional gain of some £20 million.

The expected fall in profits is due to the loss of the Absolut and Grand Marnier agencies, reduced levels of Burger King refranchising and currency translation resulting from the strength of the pound against the dollar for most of the year.

Profits from Pillsbury will be ahead of last year, excluding Pet, the US-based Mexican food group acquired in January for $2.66 billion, as benefits from new products, higher marketing spend and restructuring come through. The integration of Pet, whose brands include Old El Paso, is thought to have gone well, with the business expected to add about £72 million to operating profits. However, GrandMet said in January that the costs of integrating Pet would be included as an exceptional charge of about £120 million in its 1995 financial results.

ARGYLL GROUP: The City will look closely at Wednesday's half-year figures from the Safeway supermarket chain. For once, it will not be the pre-tax profit and earnings figures which attract attention, but sales and margins.

The food price war has grown in intensity in recent weeks in the run-up to to Christmas. First it was bananas, then it was milk and more recently wines and spirits. Consumers will be rubbing their hands at the prospect of further price cutting, but it spells bad news for shareholders.

Argyll has lost ground against its bigger rivals recently and analysts are hoping it will have made-up some of the leeway. UBS, the broker, is forecasting interim pre-tax profits of £215 million (£205.3 million) and a 4.15p (3.9p) dividend. Forecasts range from £210 million to £215 million. The group has been endeavouring to cut costs, but any benefits are unlikely to feed through until the second half at the earliest. Once again margins are likely to be down by around 0.7 per cent, with increased marketing costs taking their toll. Brokers will no doubt question the company closely about how it has been faring in recent weeks with the focus on sales in the run-up to the festive season.

TATE & LYLE: As in the case of Argyll, the issue for brokers when the sugar and sweetener group unveils full-year figures on Wednesday, will not be on the underlying pre-tax profit performance, but prospects. The sugar price in the US has been falling and price rises proposed by Staley, the group's American subsidiary, are unlikely to hold.

In spite of this depressing backdrop, the City expects a strong performance from Staley, thanks to improved productivity and strong volumes, and currency benefits. Staley should also be boosted by strong demand — especially for starch — and shortage of supply. Amylum, the company's majority-owned sweeteners and starch group in Europe should also show some improvement. Bundaberg, Tate & Lyle's Australian sugar milling business, and PM Ag Products, its US animal feed business, should both chip in increased earnings. The market expects the company's weakest area to be North American sugar refining, which includes Domino cane refining, Western beet and Redpath, the Canadian cane crusher, because of oversupply and low prices.

First half pre-tax profits are expected to rise to £319.2 million (£273.8 million), according to Kleinwort Benson. Forecasts range from £290 million to £320 million after exceptionals, with a dividend of 15.6p (14.4p) predicted.

SEVERN TRENT: The drought may be continuing to affect Yorkshire, but Lakis Athanasiou at UBS expects tomorrow's interim pre-tax profits from Severn Trent to advance to £188 million (£108 million). The comparative period was depressed by a £55 million restructuring charge and an £1.5 million provision for a customer rebate. An improved dividend of 9.3p (8.23p) is predicted. Market profit forecasts range from £175 million to £188 million.

Mr Athanasiou anticipates underlying core profits growth of about 5 per cent, thanks to good cost controls, while non-core performance shoud be strong, with Biffa performing well in an environment of increasing landfill margins in a buoyant market.

YORKSHIRE WATER: News of how Yorkshire is coping in the "great drought" will be eagerly awaited by consumers when it reports half-year figures on Wednesday. To prevent supply restrictions, it is busy importing millions of gallons into its reservoirs from Northumbrian Water. UBS expect pre-tax profits of £93 million, against last time's £67.2 million depressed by a £25 million restructuring charge. A 9.1p (8.3p) dividend is predicted. UBS anticipated about £5 million of drought costs, with attention turning to how much more the drought is likely to cost.

HANSON: A strong performance from the Quantum chemical operation in the US should help the industrial conglomerate, which paid £2.5 billion for the Eastern electricity group in the summer, to lift full-year profits due on Thursday. David Allchurch, at NatWest Securities, has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £1.35 billion (£1 billion), and a 12.1p (11.85p) dividend. Market forecasts range from £1.28 billion to £1.38 billion. Attention will focus on the outlook for ethelyne prices, which peaked in May, after a tough fourth quarter. .

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND: A healthy contribution from America should help Thursday's full-year pre-tax profits from the bank, tipped as a possible takeover target, to advance to £590 million (£532 million), according to BZW. Market forecasts range from £570 million to £620 million. Profits should be boosted by Citizens, its US banking division, though the Direct Line insurance arm will have been restrained by intense competition on car premium rates. A dividend of 16p (13.75p) is predicted.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

City expects tax cuts

The centrepiece this week will obviously be tomorrow's Budget. The one apparent certainty in City forecasts is that taxes will be cut. But how large those cuts will be, and to what extent they will be financed by cuts in public spending, is still a source of considerable debate.

A survey of City forecasts by MMS International shows that the expectations for tax cuts range from only £2 billion to as high as £8 billion. The median forecast is for cuts of £3 billion. The spectrum of predictions for spending is even wider, from spending rises of £4 billion at one end to spending cuts of £6 billion at the other. But again, the median forecast is for cuts of £3 billion. Most forecasters, therefore, expect a neutral Budget overall.

On individual tax measures, most of those surveyed by MMS believe the basic rate of taxation to be the main target for cuts with a 1 pence cut in the basic rate, to 24 pence, a central view. The consensus is that there will be no change in National Insurance contributions. Abolition of Capital Gains Tax and Inheritance Tax are not expected but thresholds may be raised. Most surveyed do not believe that the Government will introduce a windfall tax on utilities. Most predict that the personal and married couples' allowances will be indexed.

The market is predicting that the Treasury will have to raise its forecast for the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement both for this year and next. The market consensus is that this year's PSBR will rise from the £23.6 billion pencilled into the Treasury's summer forecast to £28 billion and that the £16 billion forecast for next year will rise to £22.4 billion.

The market is expecting the Treasury to revise its growth forecast for this year down to 2.75 per cent from 3 per cent in the summer forecast, and also believes the 2.75 per cent predicted for 1996 may be shaved a little.

The other economic event to watch out for this week is the Bundesbank's policy making council meeting on Thursday.

JANET BUSH

SUNDAY TIPS

The Mail on Sunday: **Buy** MY Holdings, Tinsley Robor; **Hold** Granada; **Sell** RJB. *The Sunday Times*: **Buy** Tomkins, IWP, LAIT; **Hold** Vodafone; **Sell** Inchape. *The Observer*: **Buy** Vodafone; **Sell** Bowater. *Independent On Sunday*: **Buy** JJB Sports, Oasis, Grand Metropolitan, Bunzl, Wace; **Sell** Rexam, Lloyds, Euromoney. *The Sunday Telegraph*: **Buy** Tinsley Robor, Baronmead Investment Trust; **Hold** Eidos; **Sell** Windsor.

Well test should benefit Enterprise Oil

BY CARL MORTISHED

ENTERPRISE OIL should benefit from the results of a well test in Italy, due in several weeks. The oil exploration company has a big stake in a huge field in the Southern Apennines which it shares with Agip, the Italian state oil company. Results have been slow to emerge from the drilling programme; so far Enterprise has booked only 40 million barrels but estimates of the size of the field are up to three billion barrels.

Enterprise has a 40 per cent stake in the Monte Alpi field and a 55 per cent share in Cerro Falcone, the neighbouring field. However, the oil company's geologists reckon that the two fields are part of a geological trend forming one continuous field together with a further area known as Baragiano where Enterprise has a half share. Some analysts estimate that the likely production benefit for Enterprise from the fields by the end of the century could be as high as 30,000 barrels per day, adding 10 to 15 per cent to the oil company's production.

The oil deposits in the area are in rock fissures and Enterprise is conducting a horizontal well test to determine the maximum oil recovery. A successful test would boost Enterprise whose shares have underperformed this year.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5605 (+0.0089)
German mark
2.2097 (+0.0313)
Exchange index
83.0 (+0.7)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

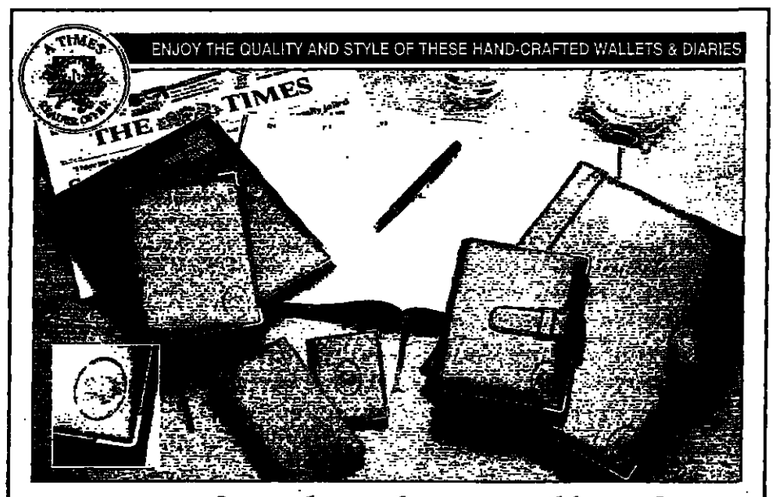
STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2654.8 (+15.9)
FT-SE 100
3624.0 (+14.8)
New York Dow Jones
5048.84 (+58.89)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
18215.23 (+64.07)

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.22	2.08
Austria Sch	16.56	15.06
Belgium Fr	48.44	44.14
Canada $	2.222	2.062
Cyprus Cyp£	0.743	0.688
Denmark Kr	9.18	8.38
Finland Mkk	7.17	6.52
France Fr	8.03	7.38
Germany Dm	2.37	2.16
Greece Dr	380.90	355.90
Hong Kong $	12.73	11.73
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1800	4.5400
Italy Lira	2595.00	2440.00
Japan Yen	172.30	156.30
Malta	0.590	0.535
Netherlds Gld	2.628	2.398
New Zealand $	2.54	2.32
Norway Kr	10.33	9.53
Portugal Esc	242.50	224.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.38
Spain Pta	196.50	183.50
Sweden Kr	10.85	10.05
Switzerland Fr	1.92	1.74
Turkey Lira	refer	79805.0
USA $	1.560	1.530

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



Executive leather collection

For readers who enjoy quality, *The Times* offers a collection of wallets and diaries, hand-stitched using the finest leathers. All items are available in black, embossed with *The Times*. Make your selection from the following:

● **Executive diaries:** the desk diary and its pocket equivalent come in either deep-grain Montana leather or smooth Napoli hide. The diary pages are printed in burgundy and grey type on top quality cream paper with gilt edging, and have perforated corners so you can easily access the current week.

The diaries have a 13-month week-on-two-pages (12 month in the pocket version), a burgundy ribbon marker, year planner, three-year forward planner, pages for expenses and staff holidays and 16 pages of world maps in colour. They measure 250mm x 210mm and 174mm x 84mm. Prices: Napoli desk £59.00, Napoli pocket £25.00, Montana desk £39.00, and Montana pocket £15.00.

All accessories are made in high-quality smooth black hide and lined with water-marked moire and blonde pigskin.

● **A4 conference folder:** two-fold executive case, measuring 315mm x 235mm. Features a leather-edged pocket for an A4 pad, two pen loops, two business card pockets, a large half pocket for loose documents, and a press-stud tab fastener. Price £55.00

● **International travel wallet:** stylishly-made and accepts the classic large UK passport as well as all other sizes. Complete with full-width rear pocket for air tickets and other travel documents, a coin purse, four credit card pockets, a zipped pocket for travellers' cheques and receipts, a jotter notes section and pen loop. Measures 187mm x 137mm. Price £49.00

● **Business card organiser:** with 16mm silver nickel mechanism, eight alphabet index dividers, 16 removable transparent sleeves for up to 96 cards back-to-back, and a diagonal pocket for loose cards. Measures 200mm x 140mm. Price £31.00

● **Credit card wallet:** incorporates a removable five-pocket quality pvc credit card section, ID window, and two leather card pockets. Measures 105mm x 75mm. Price £14.00.

The Times
Executive Leather Collection

Please send me (enter quantity)
___ Napoli Desk Diary @ £59.00 ___ Montana Desk Diary @ £39.00
___ Napoli Pocket Diary @ £25.00 ___ Montana Pocket Diary @ £15.00
___ A4 Conference Folder @ £55.00 ___ International Travel Wallet @ £49.00
___ Business Card Organiser @ £31.00 ___ Credit Card Wallet @ £14.00

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Allow 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. The offer is available in the UK only. No claims for loss in transit can be made after 60 days. The Times cannot be responsible for returned goods lost in transit. The offer is subject to availability. All orders received by Friday 8 December will be despatched in time for Christmas.
Please tick box if you do not wish to receive future offers from The Times or companies approved by them. ☐

ORDER BY PHONE: 01525 851945

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ANDREW K. CHARLESTON-COAD, Individually on Behalf of Himself, and All Others Similarly Situated, et al., Plaintiffs. — against — CUNARD LINE LIMITED, Defendant. 95 Civ. 1325 (HB)

SUMMARY OF NOTICE OF
CLASS ACTION AND SETTLEMENT HEARING

TO: ALL PASSENGERS WHO SAILED ON THE CRUISE ON THE QUEEN ELIZABETH 2 ("QE2") THAT LEFT SOUTHAMPTON, ENGLAND ON DECEMBER 17, 1994 AND ARRIVED IN NEW YORK ON DECEMBER 21, 1994 (THE "TRANSATLANTIC CRUISE") AND/OR THE CRUISE ON THE QE2 THAT LEFT NEW YORK ON OR ABOUT DECEMBER 23, 1994, SAILED IN THE CARIBBEAN AND THEN RETURNED TO NEW YORK ON JANUARY 6, 1995 (ALL OR ANY PORTION OF THAT CRUISE IS REFERRED TO AS THE "CHRISTMAS CRUISE"), AND ANY PERSON WHO HAD A TICKET TO SAIL ON EITHER THE TRANSATLANTIC CRUISE OR THE CHRISTMAS CRUISE BUT DID NOT SAIL ON EITHER CRUISE ("OFFLOADED PASSENGERS") (THE "CLASS"), EXCEPT EMPLOYEES OF CUNARD, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS, FAMILY MEMBERS OF EMPLOYEES OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS AND CLASS COUNSEL.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to an Order of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York dated November 15, 1995, a Hearing will be held on January 30, 1996 at 2.30pm in room 17B of the United States Courthouse, 500 Pearl Street, New York, New York. The purpose of the hearing is to determine whether the Court should finally certify the above-noted Class for settlement purposes, and approve as fair, reasonable, and adequate a proposed settlement of Andrew K. Charleston-Coad, Individually on Behalf of Himself, and All Others Similarly Situated, et al. v. Cunard Line Limited, 95 Civ. 1325 (the "Action"), which provides, in consideration of a release of all claims against Cunard and others, for a refund of fares paid for the Transatlantic and Christmas cruises, certain travel credits and reimbursement for specified expenses to qualifying Class members, as well as a payment for Class Counsels' attorneys fees and expenses. You may be entitled to share in the benefits of the settlement.

A more detailed notice describing the Action, the proposed settlement of the Action, the hearing thereon, and the requirements for Class members to participate, has been mailed to all persons (or their travel agents or representatives) identified on the records of Cunard Line Limited as members of the Class. If you have not received a copy of that notice, you may obtain one by making a written request to Class Counsel addressed as follows: Paul S. Edelman, Esq., Kreindler & Kreindler, 100 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10017.

DATED: November 15, 1995

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
Clerk of the Court, United States District Court, Southern District of New York, 500 Pearl Street, New York, New York 10007

TO: MR NEIL DARREN HALLAM
last known to reside at
84 HATFIELD CRESCENT
BLURTON
STOKE-ON-TRENT
STAFFORDSHIRE

TAKE NOTICE that legal proceedings have been commenced against you at the Warrington County Court, case number WA405586, alleging negligence in respect of a road traffic accident which occurred on the 1st January 1992.

FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that you should within 21 days from the date thereof write to the undermentioned for a copy of the Summons and Particulars of Claim failing which Judgment will be entered against you without further Notice.

Richard Lee
Solicitors
4 and 6 Princess Street,
Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 6DD
(tel. no. 01565/ 654739)
(ref: EW/B1126)

MERMAID ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED
Registered number: 2506405. Nature of business: ENGINEERING. Trade classification: 07. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 14th November 1995. Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): The Governor and Company of The Bank of Scotland. Administrative receiver: A.N. Gatesford FCA, (office holder no: 6920) of Gatesford Elliott & Co, 4 Brook Street, London, W1X 1AA.

The Insolvency Act 1986
ECHOES FASHIONS LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FCPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 15th November 1995.
M.R. DORRINGTON, Liquidator

PUBLIC NOTICES

£50,000 REWARD
for information leading to the recovery of investments of the late Mr Donald Barrs Buchanan.
Please Reply to Box No 1987

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-782 7344
OR
FAX: 0171-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

IN PARLIAMENT
SESSION 1995-96

ALLIED IRISH BANKS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application is being made to Parliament in the present Session by Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. ("AIB") for an Act under the above name or short title for the purposes of which the following is a concise summary:-

To provide for the vesting in AIB Group Northern Ireland plc of part of the banking and related businesses of AIB, AIB Capital Markets plc and AIB Finance Limited; for such vesting to take place on dates to be determined by the directors of AIB and, in relation to the businesses of AIB Finance Limited in Northern Ireland, the directors of AIB Finance Limited; the validation of references in deeds and other instruments; the saving of contracts, statutory provisions and other documents, powers, authorities, negotiable instruments, bailment, securities and proceedings and the provisions of the Bankers' Books Evidence Act 1879; the continuance of accounts and of interests in land; and the application of the intended Act to Scotland and Northern Ireland.

On and after 4th December 1995 a copy of the Bill may be inspected and copies obtained at the price of 50p each at the principal office of AIB in England, Bankcentre - Britain, Belmont Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 1SA; at the registered office of AIB NI in Northern Ireland, 4 Queen's Square, Belfast BT1 3DJ; at the Branch Office of AIB Bank at 19 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4DE and at the offices of the AIB Group Law Agent in Dublin and the Parliamentary Agents in London mentioned below.

Objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a Petition against it. If the Bill originates in the House of Commons the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the Private Bill Office of that House will be 30th January 1996; if it originates in the House of Lords the latest date for depositing such a Petition in the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments in that House will be 6th February 1996. Further information may be obtained from the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons, the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords, or the under-mentioned Parliamentary Agents.

Dated 27th November 1995

BRYAN SHERIDAN
AIB Group
Bankcentre
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4
Group Law Agent

SHERWOOD & CO
35 Great Peter Street
Westminster
London SW1P 3LR
Parliamentary Agents

Halsteread Limited
IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, S.D. Sweden, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 953, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LP, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 21st November 1995. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.

All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.

DATED THIS 21st November 1995
S.D. Sweden, FCA, Liquidator

CANADIAN PACIFIC LIMITED
At a meeting of the Board of Directors held today, the following dividends were declared:
ORDINARY SHARES
A final quarterly dividend of twelve cents (12c) Canadian per share on the outstanding Ordinary Shares in respect of the year 1995, payable on January 29, 1996, to holders of record at the close of business on December 27, 1995.
PREFERENCE SHARES
A semi-annual dividend of $0.03 per Canadian Dollar Preference Share and 2/5 pence per Sterling Preference Share on the outstanding Preference Shares in respect of the year 1995, payable on January 29, 1996, to holders of record at the close of business on December 27, 1995.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD,
D. J. DESSAN
VICE-PRESIDENT
AND SECRETARY
MONTREAL
NOVEMBER 20, 1995.

No. 007103 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE OMNICARE GROUP LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 16th day of November, 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named company by £741,368.30 and the reduction of the authorised capital of the company from £2,500,000 divided into 2,500,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each to £1,126,000 divided into 2,500,000 Ordinary shares of 45p each.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN and the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on the 6th day of December, 1995.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of the Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of the share premium account and the reduction of authorised share capital of the Company should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 22nd day of November 1995
Messrs Osborne Clarke
6-9 Middle Street
London EC1A 7JA
Tel: 0171 600 0188
Ref: SPF/JAJ
Solicitors for the above named Company

The case for European monetary union

Yves-Thibault de Silguy, European Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs replies to 36 questions posed by William Rees-Mogg

1. If exchange rates cannot change, how are Europe's national economies to adjust, either to external shocks or each other?
To qualify for monetary union, countries must already have "adjusted" to each other. This is what the convergence criteria are about — inflation rates, long-term interest rates, public finances and exchange rate stability must already be closely aligned. Once they are a part of monetary union, the Maastricht treaty requirements are such that the scope for future divergence will be severely limited. Any subsequent external shocks are more likely to affect regions and sectors of the economy. Just as regional imbalances can be accommodated today within a single member state, so they should be manageable under monetary union.

2. What levels of unemployment, European or national, would be acceptable in the single currency region?
Present levels of unemployment in Europe are too high. There are, however, no specific targets or ceilings for unemployment that would apply to the area.

3. How can 15 separate national budgets match a single European monetary policy?
National budgets must be consistent with the monetary policy objectives the union has set for itself. Their first priority is price stability and this is the guiding star for the European Central Bank (ECB). Member states' public deficits must not be excessive within the monetary union and the treaty provides measures to ensure this, including financial penalties against an offending member state. Subject to these constraints, member states can be flexible in setting public expenditure and fiscal policies according to national needs and priorities. This is entirely in line with the principle of subsidiarity and quite alien to any concept of a European super-state.

4. Will there be a contra-cyclic monetary policy, or will contra-cyclic budget policies be accommodated?
This is not an "either-or" question. Monetary policy can certainly be counter cyclical provided it does not threaten price stability. The ECB can operate a contra-cyclic monetary policy where this is necessary. National budgetry policies can also react to cyclical factors, provided they avoid public excessive deficits.

5. Is the single currency likely to be fairly valued in terms of other currencies, including the dollar or the yen?
The single currency will be traded on world currency markets and its value will be influenced by the economic fundamentals of the European economy and other market factors. This means that its value against the dollar or the yen will be established in the same way as, for example, the value of the pound now.

6. Will the European currency be used as reserve currency by other countries?
The single currency will represent a much larger economy than the currency of any single member state. This means that its role on world financial markets will reflect the union's position as the world's number one trading bloc. International use of the single currency can, therefore, be expected to expand rapidly after its introduction. It would not be surprising, in these circumstances, if some countries decided to use the single currency as a reserve currency.

7. Will the single currency be as strong or as well managed as the mark is at present?
The single currency will be accepted by Europe's citizens only if it is clearly as least as strong as the strongest of today's national currencies. There are three reasons to believe that it can be:
☐ The economic convergence criteria will be strictly applied. Only countries in sound economic health will participate in monetary union;
☐ The statutes of the ECB are modelled on those of the Bundesbank, which means that it will be fully independent;
☐ Monetary union will establish a much larger area of financial activity in Europe than now exists at national level. This will contribute to greater liquidity in financial markets, facilitating lower interest rates.

8. Will the ECB's directorate be divided equally between the member countries or will it, in practice, be dominated, by France and Germany?
The governing council will be made up of the governors of the central banks of countries participating in monetary union. Each member will have one vote and most decisions will be taken by simple majority. Each participating country will have the same voting rights in settling interest rates.

9. Will countries joining the single currency, be required in practice to take responsiblity for each others debts?
No. There is a treaty article that explicitly excludes the possiblity of bailing out a member state.

10. How will member countries' existing exchange reserves be treated? Are we going to keep our debts but lose our reserves?
The ECB statutes in the treaty lay down explicit conditions for national central banks to transfer a proportion of reserves to the ECB. Acting collectively in the ECB council, participating central banks will determine the interest they will receive for the reserves held.

11. Will it be possible to withdraw from the single currency?
Such a possiblity ought to be unthinkable. By signing and ratifying the Treaty on European Union, member states commited themselves to the objective of the single currency. No country would contemplate withdrawal unless it felt that its interests were being severely damaged. In the EU, member states always try to help a partner when its interests are threatened, and I would expect them to ensure that the withdrawal option is always less attractive than maintaining the status quo.

12. Will there not be a mismatch between the democratic basis of national parliaments and the ECB's nominated bureacratic basis?
Governors of central banks are never elected. In many member states they are, however, independent of political interference. But they still report regularly on their activities and defend their actions to national parliaments and governments. The credibility of the ECB's policies and its objective of price stablity will not be undermined by the risk of political intervention. It will be fully accountable to the European Parliament.

13. How much will the changeover cost the European nations?
The costs will not be punitive. The European Banking Federation has estimated the banking system's changeover costs at 3-4 per cent of operating costs and that these costs are manageable.


Yves-Thibault de Silguy: "the single currency will be traded on world currency markets"

14. How much will it cost the world banking system?
Who knows about the world? What is true is that many of the costs identified by the European banks would probably have been incurred anyway as they modernise their systems.

15. As Italy and Belgium cannot possibly meet the Maastricht debt criteria, does that not mean that at least two of the original signatories of the Treaty of Rome will be excluded?
It is too soon to predict the council's decisions on which member states will meet the necessary conditions to participate in monetary union from the start. According to the treaty, these decisions will be taken at the latest around the end of 1997.

16. Will the German Länder be excluded from control of the ECB, losing the power they enjoy under the Bundesbank's constitution?
The Bundesbank will participate alongside other national central banks in the decision making of the ECB council. It will be for the national authorities to determine the constitutional arrangements for their national central bank, but they must be in line with the statutes.

17. Will a single currency not convert the national debt of each of the member national economies into an external debt, denominated in a currency over which the individual national have no control?
No, debts will be denominated in the single currency that will be the currency of the national economies belonging to EMU. Control over the single currency will be exercised by the European system of central banks. Partipating countries will therefore each have a say in how their currency is managed.

18. Might that not make Italy insolvent, supposing Italy were ever to join?
No. To qualify for monetary union, Italy would first have to demonstrate that the public finances were sustainable by respecting the convergence criteria. The fact that its debt was denominated in the single currency would make no difference to this.

19. Is not confidence in the single currency already lower than confidence in the mark, as evidenced by German bond markets?
The bond market is sending the clear signal that greater certainty is needed about the passage to the single currency. That is why it is essential for the Madrid European Council to decide on the scenario for its introduction and to eliminate the uncertainty over the name. These decisions will further underline the political committment to the objective of monetary union and boost market confidence. It is also important not to confuse the present basket ECU with the future single currency. Althought the changeover will take place at a parity of 1:1, the two are economically very different. The stability-oriented basis of the single currency and the ECB will ensure that Europe' new currency is at least as strong and stable as the best national currency today.

20. Will that not mean that the single currency interest rates will be higher than German rates would be on their own?
No. The solid economic fundamentals on which the single currency will be based and the stability-oriented constitution of the ECB will be at least as good as the corresponding factors for the Bundesbank and the mark. Interest rates on the single currency should certainly be no higher than German rates before the changeover. On the contrary, they may be lower, since the larger financial area of the single currency should improve competitive conditions and lead to greater liquidity.

21. The US in 1991, and Japan in 1995 have saved their banking systems by reliquefying them. Would that not be outside the powers of the ECB?
There is no reason to think that the scope for the action by the European system of central banks would be any more limited than it is for national central banks today. In addition, the council has the power to allocate the ECB specific tasks on prudential supervision. In the absence of such a decision, national authorities would retain their existing powers and responsibilities.

22. Might not British clearing banks find themselves without a reliable tender of last resort if Britain were to join?
No. Again, there is no reason to suppose that the situation would be different from today. Remember that the Maastricht treaty does not abolish the Bank of England.

23. Are German taxpayers willing to take on the potential liabilities of supporting the deficits of a Europe of 350 million people?
They are not being asked to do so. There is even a article of the treaty that explicitly excludes the possiblity of one member state taking on another's liabilities.

24. Are French electors willing to accept the levels of unemployment that a single currency might cause in France?
Monetary union will be based on a sound economic framework of low inflation, sound public finances, and stable monetary conditions. This is the only way to produce the sustained growth, confidence and investment that are needed to create jobs. French electors will, therefore, welcome the resulting drops in unemployment.

25. Would there not have to be a harmonisation throughout the EU of public expenditure and taxation as a proportion of GDP?
No. For monetary union it is important that member states' public deficits are not excessive; that is that the difference between public expenditure and income remains under control. Subject to these constraints, member states will retain flexibility to set public expenditure and fiscal policies according to national needs and priorities, in line with the principle of subsidiarity.

26. Will the proposed single currency, confined to a small group, contribute to European competitiveness with America or Asia?
Monetary union will give a boost to the dynamism of the European economy, even if not all countries particpate from the start. This will lead to higher growth, lower unemployment, and strengthen the competitiveness of European countries on world markets. Spillover effects will ensure that member states that do not participate from the start will also share in these benefits.

27. Will money not flow towards those single currency countries with the highest interest rates — that is, to countries with the weakest finances?
Strict application of the convergence criteria before and after the start of monetary union should ensure that differences between the interest rates and public finance situation in participating countries are much smaller than they are today. In addition, the single monetary policy operated by the ECB will ensure common base rates in all participating countries. Interest rates on specific debt would, therefore, simply reflect the associated risk premiums. Countries with relatively weak public finances might therefore need to pay more to attract investors. But this is no different to the system today in the UK where, for example, local authority debt usually has a risk premium over central government securities.

28. Is not the single currency structure designed to deal with inflation, but not with a deflationary problem such as the US experienced in the early 1930s, or Japan is experiencing now?
No. The objective of the ECB will be to ensure price stability. There is nothing in the treaty that could prevent a monetary policy designed to deal with a deflationary situation if necessary.

29. Is it not possible for the money supply in separate national banking systems to change at different rates under a single currency system?
No. The ECB would have overall control of a single monetary supply in the European currency. The concept of money supply in national banking systems would no longer have any relevence.

30. Might that not lead both to local and systematic instability?
No. The federal structure of the European system of central banks will ensure that the ECB has full control over monetary policy throughout the monetary union.

31. Can a single monetary system support different labour costs without extensive migration of workers?
Yes. For cultural, linguistic and historical reasons, labour mobility within Europe is much lower between member states than it is within individual countries. This means that wage differentials between member states can accomodate differential rates of productivity without provoking mass migration or high levels of regional unemployment.

32. Will not national governments blame the non-elected central bank, which will be outside their control, for economic difficulties which might threaten their re-election?
There are many example of indepedent central banks in Europe and none has become a political whipping boy. On the contrary, the absence of monetary policy decisions shaped by short-term electoral needs enhances the credibity and therefore the sucess of their anti-inflationary policies. There is no reason to suppose that the situation will be different with the ECB.

33. Will not the ECB end up being blamed for everything?
The treaty provides procedures for the ECB to report regularly to the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers. In this context, the ECB will be required to account for its actions and defend its decisions where necessary.

34. Is it not the case that only five or six of the 16 EU nations both can meet the criteria and want to join?
There are 15 member states of the union. The decision on which will join monetary union from the start is not for today. It will be taken by the heads of state and government about the end of 1997 at the latest. It is premature, and can have damaging effects on progress with convergence, to engage in pointless speculation on which countries will meet the necessary conditions in one or two years' time. Opinion polls consistently show a majority around the union in favour of the single currency, although the degree of support does vary widely between member states.

35. Will that not cause both an economic and political division of Europe of a very dangerous kind?
The treaty clearly envisaged that not all member states would be ready to participate in monetary union from the start. Those that do not will be politically committed to the earliest possible participation as soon as they meet the economic conditions. Denmark and the UK would be possible exceptions if they exercise their opt-outs.

36. Is 1999 not an impossible date for monetary union?
No. Europe will have a single currency at the latest by January 1, 1999. It is an economic and political necessity for Europe. There are no other solutions. Without the single currency, the single market and even the single agricultural policy would not be sustainable in the long term. Failure would create a political crisis for the whole of the European construction. The economic fundamentals in the Community are sound and encouraging progress is being made with economic convergence, particularly in relation to inflation and long-term interest rates. I have no doubt that a significant number of member states will meet the conditions for monetary union to start according to the timetable. Member states have consistently reaffirmed their determination to introduce the single currency at the latest by January 1, 1999.

The headline from *The Times* of October 2

Happy days are here again

The theme tune of the gilt market at the moment is *Happy Days Are Here Again*. What could be better? In the UK, there is the prospect of modest growth, low inflation and potential interest rate cuts. Internationally, the outlook is, well, modest growth, low inflation and potential interest rate cuts.

The Budget, tomorrow, is more important than ever this year, given that it will very largely set the economic agenda in the run-up to a general election. Second-guessing the Budget so close to it is a mug's game, but the general view in the market is that it is unlikely to upset the strong bullish undertone prevalent now.

There are expected to be two Budget themes that should be supportive for gilts. The first is that tax cuts will be limited by the extent of expenditure reductions; that is, the Budget will be fiscally neutral in its overall stance. The second is that Kenneth Clarke will do nothing to reduce the chances of a base rate cut.

The first proposition is straightforward. If there has been one thing that might have caused the Chancellor concern in recent months, it would have been the worse than expected PSBR. In spite of recent good figures for October, there will be a substantial PSBR overshoot this year. Look for an outturn close to £28 billion, rather than the targeted £23.5 billion.

The result is that tax cuts — non-negotiable in the political agenda — will need to be "justified" by cuts in spending plans. It would seem plausible that matched tax and spending cuts could amount to £5 billion.

What constitutes genuine cuts in expenditure in these circumstances owes as much to accounting and to actual spending. Reducing the contingency reserve should provide about half the total, and the rest could be real cuts in spending.

Whatever the aggregate figure, the key point (from the market's perspective) is that any significant net fiscal easing is unlikely. Against this background, the scale of tax cuts is not crucial. What is important is the credibility of the spending plans underpinning tax reductions. The only problem in terms of scale is that the larger the expenditure cuts, the greater the doubt as to whether they can be realised.

If all goes to plan — the market's plan, that is — the perception is that there will be nothing stopping a base rate cut, possibly after the December 13 meeting of the Governor and the Chancellor. The rationale is the same as that supporting the market as a whole: modest growth, low inflation and reductions in interest rates in other key economies.

This is not as obvious as it might seem. Growth may have slowed, but most forecasters see it as a stock-induced pause and the Bank of England still thinks that the odds are against the Government meeting its ambitious 2.5 per cent inflation target in two years' time. Recently, sterling has looked wobbly against the mark, dragged down by a soft dollar.

Nevertheless, the market has discounted a base rate cut and the Chancellor may not be able to look a gift horse in the mouth, whatever half-hearted objections the Governor might make. The political satisfaction of capping the Budget with a base rate cut might well overcome reservations about whether inflation will be just above, or just below, 2.5 per cent in two years' time.

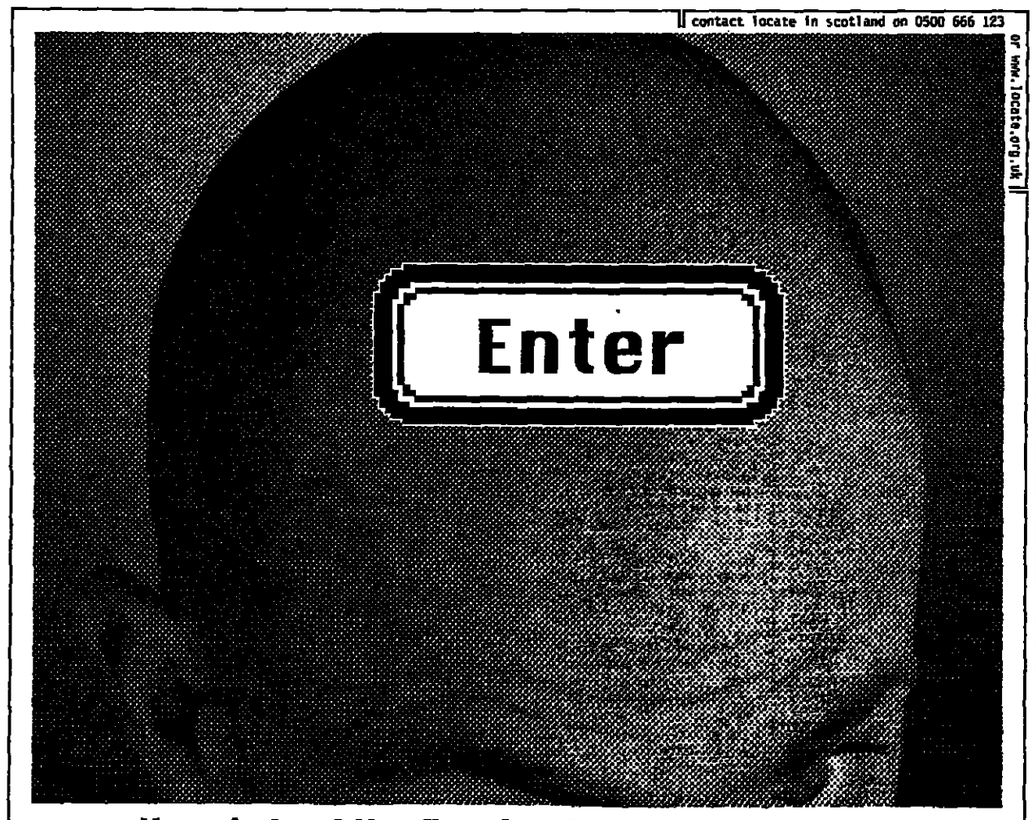
If there is a problem (and there always is), its signs are just becoming discernible. Why has Mr Clarke pushed so hard for expenditure cuts and, hence, tax cuts? Why is he thought eager to cut interest rates? The answer, besides the health of the UK economy (of course), raises the sensitive topic of the approaching general election.

Hence the threat to the market next year, which many expect to be election year. This summer, gilt yields spiked 40bp higher when John Major called his leadership election — a low-key rehearsal for the real thing yet to come. Political risk is not yet priced into the market, but that will happen at some stage in 1996, possibly sooner rather than later.

The question that investors need to answer when looking at the outlook for 1996 is simple. Are economic fundamentals so good that a risk premium can be built into the market and yet still allow yields to stay the same, or even nudge lower? Or does the addition of a political risk premium inevitably mean that yields will end up higher?

Our conclusion is cautious. We suspect that ten-year yields, currently about 7.6 per cent, will be pushed above 8 per cent by next summer, when the talk is bound to be of an autumn election. Nevertheless, the fact that there is any doubt about the impact of political risk on the gilt market is a guide to how far times have realy changed. Happy days indeed.

JOHN SHEPPERD
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North Sea 'gas bubble' talks lack commitment

BY MARTIN WALLER

BRITISH GAS and the North Sea gas producers go into more "talks about talks" this week with no sign that the discussions will develop into substantive negotiations over the problem of the so-called "gas bubble", which could cost British Gas £1 billion or more.

Relations between the two sides reached a new low late last week when the producers, who have long-term contracts with British Gas requiring the company to take their output at prices well above the current market level, received a letter suggesting these contracts might be unilaterally set aside.

One big supplier indicated privately that British Gas might be left to stew this winter, to give an idea of the direction of gas prices before proper negotiations over the contracts were allowed to begin.

Another said those negotiations could start immediately but were being held up by the intransigence of the British Gas management.

The company said it was in talks with the producers about eventually sitting down to redraw the contracts. "We hope we can swiftly move into fruitful negotiations. We're talking to everyone in the arena," said a spokeswoman.

But Steve Brann, oil analyst at Kleinwort Benson, said: "There is a long way between talking and actual resolution at the moment. There's no incentive for the oil companies at this stage."

The contracts, stretching forward for some years, require British Gas to take the output at fixed prices about double the current gas price in the spot market, or pay for the output anyway. The company has already set aside £500 million to cover losses on gas it no longer needs because of encroachment by several competitors on to its core market.

The Government is attempting to put pressure on the producers to settle with British Gas. Tim Eggar, the Industry Minister, called last week for the opening of talks.

But one producer said on Friday: "We don't think the spot price means very much — what is significant is the average price. We would like to see what the market price is over the winter." Other producers have accused British Gas of exaggerating the problem it faces.

Mr Brann at Kleinwort Benson said: "Most of the producers have a very standard approach, in that they're not willing to give any shareholder value across to British Gas."

The producers have indicated they will only renegotiate the price at which the gas is sold downwards in return for a cash payment up front from British Gas as compensation.

"They don't see any reason why they should be penalised — they signed the contracts in good faith," Mr Brann said. "We're a long way from discussions on contracts and prices."

The swifter than expected arrival of competition in the domestic market over the next couple of years means British Gas has contracted to pay for output it may not need.

Cedric Brown, chief executive, has suggested that the Government, and therefore taxpayers, might like to foot the bill. Ofgas, the industry regulator, has said prices might not fall as fast as they would otherwise from the coming of competition, putting some of the burden on customers.

Mr Eggar wants the oil producers to forgo some profits from the contracts.

P&O poised to halt acquisition

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

P&O looks set to abandon its proposed acquisition of ANL, Australia's national shipping line, this week after failing to reach a compromise with the country's powerful unions over the sale.

The two sides have been locked in intense negotiations for three months in an attempt to resolve their industrial differences after the unions threatened to mount a national waterfront strike if the sale went ahead without their consent. With just three days to go to the November 30 deadline, the two sides remain as far apart as ever.

The unions, led by the Maritime Union of Australia, remain steadfastly opposed to the sale of the government-owned shipping line to P&O, citing the company's poor industrial record in the UK and fearing that P&O would cut back the operation and bring in overseas crews to run the ships.

It is understood that the unions' conditions for the sale include a ten-year guarantee that at least three ships will continue to be used on routes to Asia. The Australian Federal Government is known to be considering offering a range of financial incentives to the Maritime Union in a last-ditch attempt to secure its support for the sale, although few observers hold out much hope for any last-minute change of heart by the unions.

For P&O, the collapse of the deal would be a big setback in its plans to increase its presence in the region. The acquisition of ANL would position it as the dominant player in the Australasian shipping industry, controlling major trade routes to Asia and across the Tasman Sea. It is understood that P&O originally prepared was to pay about A$100 million (£48 million), including debt, for the operation, which would have involved a net outlay of about A$20 million.

However with ANL currently losing about A$2 million a month, any deal now would be likely to see the Government paying P&O to take the business off its hands.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 33

CHASUBLE
(b) A sleeveless vestment worn over the alb by the priest in charge of Mass. The alb (Latin *albus*) itself is a long, flowing white surplice with close-fitting sleeves. "Canon Leckie, I am aware that you are a comparatively young man as the Chapter of Lincoln goes, but the Dean is most displeased with the uncanonical double row of orphreys you have sewn to your chasuble. He feels it to be vain and worldly."

LIRIPIPE
(c) The long tail of a hat, like a kite's tail, worn as adornment in the Middle Ages, and hence the long tail of a graduate's hood in the ancient universities, now obsolete. It was also known, in agreeable undergraduate slang, as a *liripoop*. "Now, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Sociology Faculty, I want you to take care not to step on the liripipes of your predecessors in the Vice-Chancellor's procession."

NANKEEN
(a) A buff-coloured cotton cloth first made in Nanking. A favourite material for men's tight-fitting breeches during Darcy time and the Regency. "Do not look at me in that disapproving way, Yates. Just put out my Nankeen trousers and Old Harrovian spats as I asked you to do last night."

FEDORA
(a) A soft hat dented lengthways, originally with a curled brim. Also known as a Trilby, from the play of the same name by George du Maurier. Fedora too was from a play by Sardou. "You may try to look like a gumshoe out of Dashiell Hammett, Boris, by pulling your dirty fedora down over your eyes. But you still look the same old pratt to me."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Nf6+! Kh8 (1 ... Qxf6 2 Qxc7) 2 Ne8! and Black must lose material.

THE TIMES

Free Penguin 60s Classics



The Times, in association with Penguin Books and Dillons and Ottakar's bookstores, offer readers up to six free books from the Penguin 60s Classics series, launched this month as part of Penguin's 60th birthday celebrations. The 60s Classics, some of which are abridged, some essays, and some complete works, follow on from the first successful series of Penguin's 60s paperbacks, also included in this offer, which flew straight to the top of the bestseller lists. This gives you a choice of up to 120 titles to choose from subject to availability at participating Dillons and Ottakar's stores. The launch of the new 60s Classics series, a full list appeared in *The Times* on Saturday, offers you some of world's greatest literature, and the original 60s series offers such titles as Edith Wharton's *Madame De Treymes*. To get a free book, present the voucher, below, at a participating Dillons or Ottakar's bookstore. More vouchers will appear this week. For your local participating Dillons bookstore, one of Britain's largest booksellers, call: **0121 7038114.**

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ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

Mid cap (million)	Company	Price pence	Wkly +/−	Yld %	P/E
14.80	AMCO Corp	104	...	5.4	11.4
0.89	Abacus Recruit	17	...	...	...
18.10	A de Gruchy	123	+ 5	5.7	10.2
5.91	African Gold	7	+ ¼	...	...
	Albemarale & Bd	14	...	...	...
11.20	Alpha Omikron	20	− 2	...	...
40.20	Ann St Brewery	420	...	5.2	11.5
5.36	Ann St Cv Pf	905	...	8.8	...
58.30	Antonov	83	− 10	...	...
11.70	Ask Central	73	...	...	...
	Athelney Trust	55	...	...	...
4.37	Baris Hldgs	17	...	...	...
4.12	Belcanto	46	...	...	...
	Bowness Leis	145	...	...	...
	Bown Leis Cv Pf	70	...	...	...
4.96	Brancote Hdgs	50	+ 7	...	...
27.40	Brockbank	235	− 15	3.4	23.5
	CCI Hldgs	115	...	...	...
	CCI Founder Shs	110	...	...	...
3.21	*Cafe Inns*	115	...	2.2	9.5
8.52	Caledonian Tst	75	...	...	9.1
11.50	Card Clear	58	− 2	...	...
3.85	Cassidy Bros	70	...	5.4	10.0
1.79	Cavendish W F	41	− 2	...	20.8
	Celtic	6750	...	...	...
	Celtic Pf Shs	6750	...	...	...
15.40	Cl Comms(TV)	114	...	2.7	14.5
5.76	Charwell Intl	64	...	...	...
13.10	ClubPartners	31	...	...	...
7.59	Conister Tst	38	...	2.6	16.3
10.90	*Country Gdns*	61	...	2.5	12.6
2.49	Cntry Gdns Pf	68	...	9.8	...
42.70	Creos Intl	119	− 3	...	...
10.80	DBS Management	160	+ 7	4.8	6.3
	Dalkeith Inns	34	...	...	...
3.58	David Glass	66	− 4	5.5	9.4
39.10	Dawson Hdgs	855	− 10	4.2	11.8
3.21	Dean Corp	11	...	...	64.3
91.80	Electrophoretics Intl	142	− 8	...	...
5.62	Euro Sales Fn	125	...	...	...
	Fartake	235	+ 5	...	...
1.77	*Finl Pubs*	75	+ 30	...	...
29.20	Firecrest	175	− 28	...	76.1
5.53	Floral St	238	− 5	...	12.9
12.90	Formscan	138	+ 10	1.8	...
4.55	Furlong Homes	91	+ 1	3.3	4.9
24.50	Gander Hdgs	8½	...	...	72.5
5.55	Graduate Apts	33	...	...	39.6
0.27	Grad Apts Wts	25	...	...	...
5.70	Greenhills	19	...	...	...
34.60	Guiton	155	...	3.2	14.0
5.91	Hansom	58	+ 3	...	...
54.50	Hiscox Dad Ins	120	...	0.3	...
	Hiscox Dad p/p	55	...	...	...
11.20	Indpt Radio	112	...	...	...
13.60	Inner Workings	81	...	...	...
18.70	Jennings Bros	288	...	2.5	24.7
38.20	KS Biomedix	101	...	...	...
24.90	Lancashire Enterprises	138	...	4.5	11.8
	Lawrence	205	...	...	...
53.70	Lawrie Group	2750	...	3.2	14.0
46.40	Le Riches Strs	280	...	6.9	28.4
	Lifehome As Ten	85	...	...	...
19.40	Lon Fiduciary	2	...	...	...
2.00	London Town	80	...	...	...
12.50	Lorien Grp	220	+ 3	...	...
5.26	Mettek	83	...	...	37.1
230.90	Memory Corp	390	− 60	...	...
6.33	Metrodome Films	22	...	...	...
11.80	Moorepay	156	+ 3	3.2	25.7
18.50	MultiMedia	64	− 1	...	...
22.50	NWF Grp	300	...	2.7	14.5
	Nash (Wm)	145	− 5	5.7	...
8.35	Neill Clerk	330	...	2.3	16.0
5.63	Neilson Cobbold	205	...	2.3	5.0
	Norcity Il	63	...	...	...
	Norhomes	65	...	...	...
	Nthmb Res Prps	65	− 2	...	...
16.40	Nursing Home	106	+ 1	0.6	...
9.68	Old English Pub	88	+ 2	2.8	...
5.24	Omnicare	85	...	2.2	14.1
12.70	Omnimedia	71	− 9	...	...
10.70	Pacific Media	1	− ¼	...	...
	Pacific Med Pf	53	...	...	...
5.35	Pan Andean Res	13	− ½	...	...
4.66	Park Ests(Liv)	195	...	...	...
3.62	Preston Nth E	400	...	...	...
11.90	Riceman Insce	18	+ 1	...	...
13.20	SCS Satellite	128	...	...	...
4.01	Scotswood Inds	18	...	6.9	54.8
	Scott Pride	41	...	...	...
13.00	Scrutons	270	...	6.0	11.0
	Silkbarn	2½	...	...	...
123.80	Southern News	525	+ 5	3.7	14.6
	Southern Vectis	56	...	...	...
32.90	Stanford Rook	188	− 5	...	...
11.60	Surrey Fr Inns	115	+ 2	2.0	13.5
53.20	TRACKER Netwk	1005	+ 30	...	...
4.85	Tele Cred Eur	48	+ 7	...	...
	Tele Cred Wrts	38	+ 5	...	...
11.30	Toad	91	− 4	...	...
	Trinity Care	180	...	1.1	...
	Trinity Care Pf	165	...	...	...
	Univent	40	...	...	...
	Utd Auctions	463	...	...	...
	VDC	625	...	...	...
35.70	Versailles Grp	13½	− ½	...	22.0
	Voss	243	+ 23	...	...
	Wedderburn Secs	10	...	...	...
	Wedd Secs Wrnts	4	...	...	...
2.05	Westmount Engy	25	...	...	...
8.64	W'chester M Mkt	78	...	...	...
	Wynnstay Props	145	...	...	...
	Zergo	160	− 10	...	...



The floating off, by Burford, of the Trocadero in London is creating investor interest

Trocadero heads centre stage

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

THERE was continued demand for technology stocks on the Alternative Investment Market, the new market for smaller and growing companies, especially those with exposure to the Internet global computer network.

David Abrahams, a dealer at Winterflood Securities, said there is also considerable interest in companies due to join AIM, from institutional and private clients. "Volume has been tremendous this week," he added.

Attention will now shift to Trocadero, the leisure complex that is being spun off by Burford Holdings, although there has also been a lot of interest in Pet City, the pet superstore group, which is seen by many as the next niche market in the retail industry. Mr Abrahams said investors are "straining at the leash for Pet City". Jasmin, an electronic systems group, is also due to join AIM on Thursday through an introduction.

AIM, which succeeds the USM and the Rule 4.2 matched bargain trading facility, has 108 stocks traded, with a total market capitalisation of £1.84 billion. Total cash raised since AIM started on June 19 stands at £52.6 million. The number of nominated advisers approved by the Stock Exchange remains at 56.

Debut by Australian retailer

UK and other foreign institutions have taken almost a fifth of David Jones, Australia's upmarket retailer, which makes its A$750 million (£355 million) stock market debut today.

The department store chain, headed by Chris Tideman, a former Burton director, and comprising 32 stores around Australia boasts chandeliers, marble floors and uniformed lift attendants, and is often dubbed the Harrods of Australia.

SBC Warburg, joint lead manager to the float, said that overseas investors had been attracted by improvements Mr Tideman is carrying out at the group. Geoff Brunsdon, SBC director, said: "They see David Jones as a retailer that's going to outperform significantly, because of the upgrading of the internal systems and plans to open new stores."

All the proceeds from the float will go towards repaying the A$1.2 billion debt left from David Jones's days as a subsidiary of Adelaide Steamship Group, the ill-fated Australian conglomerate.

Homes gloom

Homeowners still have a bleak view of the housing market, with 68 per cent expecting the value of their homes to remain flat over the next six months, according to a survey of homeowners' confidence by the Britannia Building Society. Only 11 per cent expected prices to rise, while 9 per cent thought they would fall. Only 22 per cent of respondents said their financial position had improved in the past year and 25 per cent said their financial situation had deteriorated.

Pay trend

Pay deals in the engineering industry have stabilised, with their two-year upward movement apparently ended, according to new figures from the EEF engineering employers. Deals in the three months to October averaged 3.4 per cent.



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Tax cuts can square the virtuous circle

Ten years ago, anyone calling for a Budget to attack poverty could have meant only one thing. Social security benefit rates would be raised or coverage widened — and taxpayers would have to cough up the difference. This priority, prevalent in the 1970s, had its last serious outing in the late John Smith's ill-fated shadow Budget, before the 1992 election. Its reception ensured it would not be repeated.

In presentation, the 1980s agenda was the opposite. Successive Chancellors have borne down on benefits, trimmed their value and cut their scope, in order to energise layabouts and, more generally, to bolster incentives to take low-paid work, to buy your own house and to provide for your own retirement. The net result has been worse, because poverty has increased so much.

Nearly a third of households now draw some means-tested benefit. Since 1979, social security spending has virtually doubled in real terms, adjusted for inflation and now absorbs 31 per cent of all public spending. Within that total, costs of the basic state pension and child benefit have grown less than the economy. Means-tested benefits such as income support, housing aids and state subsidies to people in work have mushroomed.

In consequence, the tax burden has remained high to no good purpose. Interest rates and unemployment have remained obstinately higher than they need be. Output and economic growth have been restrained. The only sensible economic agenda for the next ten years is to cut the numbers of poor people, rather than just trying to relieve rising poverty: to enable millions more families to live a decent, modest life without needing means-tested benefits. Only then can the wider economic reforms of the 1980s deliver the higher growth and lower taxes they promised.



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

In the new parliamentary year, the Divorce Bill may well have more impact on long-term poverty than anything Kenneth Clarke can do tomorrow. But his Budget and those that follow should be judged by their impact on poverty. Will Budget measures raise or cut the social security bill at current real benefit rates? When the tax burden was being raised, the plan to raise VAT on domestic fuel increased compensating welfare payments by £1 billion to increase revenue to £3 billion. Tax cuts, if chosen well, can automatically cut public spending on welfare.

The first priority is to avoid raising taxes on goods ordinary people buy, therefore boosting the retail price index and benefit rates. Since petrol taxes are set to rise by more than inflation, other duties should be kept down.

The next priority is to help to create jobs at current levels of demand and to avoid destroying jobs that pay enough to sustain a family. In the short term, that means public sector jobs too. If the Chancellor opts for a one-off capital levy on electricity companies, he should use it to fill the hiatus in orders for the construction and capital goods industries before his big boost to privately financed investment gathers momentum.

A small cut in employers' National Insurance contributions has already been promised. More cuts would be welcome. But they should cover all pay up to average earnings. A 10.2 per cent jobs tax on weekly wages of £210 but only 3 per cent below £105 a week, gives employers a strong incentive to axe decent jobs and create low-paid part-time work that must often be supplemented by benefits.

Most of all, Mr Clarke should focus income tax cuts on families. Large numbers pay tax and national insurance at 30 per cent on earnings and have to claim in-work benefits to meet the tax bill. This is daft as well as humiliating. Means-tested benefits allow for family circumstances, the tax system does not, especially since the switch to child benefit and independent taxation.

Both opposition parties have made useful suggestions here. Labour wants a 10 per cent tax rate. Liberal Democrats want to lift the basic income tax allowance several notches and then raise the income threshold for National Insurance contributions to the same level. An extension of the Government's 20 per cent band would help. But they are not ambitious enough.

To gain the biggest spending cut bang for his tax-cutting buck, Mr Clarke needs to reverse the cuts in tax allowances for families with one earner and children. No family with 2.4 children should be paying tax on an income of less than £11,000 a year. A cheap way to start on this road would be to double the £1,720 married person's tax allowance (and probably the additional person's allowance) and credit them against tax of up to 20 per cent. Even cheaper would be to create a new allowance of, say, £2,000 a year for the first child or dependent relative.

Cuts in taxes that cut the need for benefit cost less. They spin a virtuous circle that can progressively cut taxes and public spending. A Budget for families might even win more votes than a flashy one.

RADIO CHOICE

The chicken and the egg

Readings from Cardus. *Radio 3, 8.50pm.*

Classical music and cricket were the signposts that put Neville Cardus on the road to the garden of utmost delight. He memorably chose the pages of the old *Manchester Guardian* to report on what he found there. Radio 3's four programmes of readings from Cardus's concert notices are introduced by Fritz Spiegl, himself a most engaging musical connoisseur. He recalls Cardus's classic response to those who questioned his authority to judge music that he was unable to play: "You don't have to be a chicken to know whether an egg is good or bad." It was another way of saying, as he did, that he listened to music without a single technical or pedagogic axe to grind. The reader is Gerard Green.

The Lipman Test. *Radio 4 (FM), 10.00am.*

The enthusiasm that Maureen Lipman initially expresses for her personal laptop computer and its e-mail facility, is short-lived. She is an Internetter, not an Internutter, and would hate to be bracketed with the PC addict who says that the Internet is not a hobby but a way of life. She cannot be the first person to suggest that the Internet has invested computer dating with a new meaning. She predicts that the lyrics of *South Pacific* ("Some enchanted evening, you may see a stranger across a crowded room") will be overtaken on the Internet superhighway by: "I e-mailed him, he e-mailed me. We logged on and well!"

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, incl at **12.30-12.48pm** Newsbeat; and at **1.15** The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, including at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat; **6.15** The Net. **7.00** Evening Session: Steve Lamacq and Jo Whiley **9.00** Apache Indian **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** Paul Heiney **7.00** Hubert Gregg **7.30** Malcolm Laycock **8.00** Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Thicker Than Water **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, incl at **10.35** Euronews; **11.05** Going Bananas **12.00** Midday with Max **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **2.35** Actuality; and at **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** John Inverdale, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** Sport **7.35** Sportstrack 1968 **8.00** The Monday Match. Nottingham Forest and Manchester United **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, incl at **11.15** Financial World **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** Jonathan King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** Anna Raeburn **4.00** Scott Chisholm and Lowri Turner **7.00** Sean Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** James Whale **1.00-8.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **5.00am** Newsday **5.30** Europe **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Europe **7.00** News **7.15** *Middlemarch* **7.30** Vintage Chart Show **8.00** News **8.10** Faith **8.15** Greenfield **9.00** News in German **9.15** Anything Goes **9.45** Sports **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** BBC English **10.45** *Middlemarch* **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00** News **12.05pm** Business **12.15** Britain **12.30** Purcell's London **1.00** Newshour **2.05** Outlook **2.30** John Peel **3.00** News in German **3.15** Concert Hall **4.00** News **4.15** The World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Sports **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News in German **7.00** News **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Faith **7.30** Multitrack **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Britain **9.30** Omnibus **10.00** News **10.30** World **10.45** Sports **11.00** News **11.10am** Take Five **11.15** Ed Stewart **11.45** Development 95 **Midnight** News **12.30am** Folk Routes **12.45** Britain **1.00** News **1.10** Press **1.15** Beatles **1.45** Health **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Quote, Unquote **3.00** News **3.15** Sports **3.30** John Peel **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Berwald (Violin Concerto in C sharp minor) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata: Domenico Dall'oglio (Sonata for violin and continuo) **7.00** A to Z **8.00** Wagner (Wotan's Farewell; Magic Fire Music); Anon (The Lark in the Clear Air); Michael Nyman (Water Dances); Mahler (Das Lied von der Erde); **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00-6.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Smetana (Vysehrad) **6.17** Brahms (Symphony No 4 in E minor) **7.05** Finzi (Romance for string orchestra) **7.22** Cherubini (March for the King of Prussia's Regimental Guard) **7.47** Prokofiev (Five Melodies) **8.05** Handel (My heart is inditing) **8.23** Alkan (Nocturne in B) **8.32** Mozart (Symphony No 27 in G)

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Rachmaninov (Etudes Tableaux, Op 39: Nos 5, 6 and 9) **9.12** Dvorak (Two Cypresses) **9.18** Dvorak (Symphony No 7 in D minor)

10.00 Musical Encounters. Presented by Edward Blakeman. Vivaldi (Concerto in E) **10.10** Honegger (Concerto da camera) **10.25** Haydn (Wind Octet in C) **11.25** Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in E minor)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Antonio Vivaldi. Vivaldi and the Venetian Tradition, with Lynne Walker and Michael Talbot

1.00 BBC Lunchtime Concert. Live from St John's, Smith Square. Haydn (Trio in C); Bridge (Trio No 2)

2.00 Schools. The Song Tree **2.15** Storybox. **2.25** Let's Move **2.45** First Steps in Drama

3.00 The BBC Orchestras Schubert (Symphony No 8 in B minor); Hindemith (Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes by Weber)

3.45 National Trust Instruments. Paul Nicholson visits Tatton Park, near Manchester, to play the 1789 Kirkman harpsichord: includes music by Purcell, Gibbons, Handel and J.C. Bach

4.30 You Take Some Skins . . . Although black Americans created jazz 100 years ago, the first jazz record, in 1917, was made by whites. Russell Davies unravels the complex relationship between black and white jazz musicians from the earliest days to the present. (3/6) (r)

5.00 The Music Machine. Tommy Pearson talks to Barry Fox about how the Internet started and how to get on it

5.15 In Tune. Presented by Andrew Green. Liszt (Rigoletto Paraphrase) **6.03** Harty (Nocturne) **6.30** Haydn (Symphony No 58 in F)

7.30 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Jun'ichi Hirokami. Bons Befkin (violin).Shostakovich (Violin Concerto No 1); Brahms (Symphony No 2 in D)

8.50 Readings from Cardus. See Choice

9.05 Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival: In Memory of Luigi Nono. Nono (Canonic Variations); Rihm (Sphere); Nori (Caminantes)

10.45 Mixing It. Presented by Mark Russell and Robert Sandall. Includes a session from Say What? with improvisations for electric guitar

11.30-12.30am Ensemble. Penny Gore introduces recitals by quartets celebrating anniversaries. The Vanbrugh Quartet. Puccini (Crisantemi); Beethoven (String Quartet in E flat, Op 127)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) **6.00** News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30 Today**, incl **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** One Year On **8.58** Weather **9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week. 10.00 Daily Service** (LW only) **10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle** (LW only) **10.00 News; The Lipman Test:** The Internet (FM only). See Choice (4/6) **10.30 Woman's Hour** Serial: *The Masses Mallet* (9/12) **11.30 Money Box Live** (0171 580 4444) **12.00 News; You and Yours** with Chris Choi **12.25pm Who goes There?** Martin Young chairs a new panel game which delves into the lives of famous people **12.55** Weather **1.00 The World at One,** with Nick Clarke. **1.40 The Archers** (r) **1.55** Shipping **2.00 News; 4 Comedies on 4.** *Go for the Grail* by Alison Joseph. Hypnotherapy cures Cath of the smoking habit but introduces a none-too-fragrant 14th-century peasant warrior **3.00 The Afternoon Shift** Link Wray talks of his love for his hybrid guitar **4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope** Lynne Walker talks to the Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes and looks at the Liverpool arts scene. **4.45 Short Story: The Cat's Meat Man,** by Penelope Lively. Read by Brenda Bruce **5.00 PM,** with Kevin Bocquet and Wendy Jones **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather **6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue** (r) **7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 The Food Programme.** A report on whether food retailers are acquiring a social conscience. (r) **7.45 Cinema 100: Monday Play — Saturday Night and Sunday Morning.** Alan Sillitoe's story of the rebellious, hard-drinking Arthur Seaton, played by Jamie Glover **9.15 Whose Freedom is it Anyway?** Vera Frankl looks at how life has changed for women in Eastern Europe since 1982. (2/5) **9.30 Kaleidoscope 9.59** Weather **10.00 The World Tonight,** with Robin Lustig. **10.45 Book at Bedtime: Inside Mr Enderby,** by Anthony Burgess. Read by the late Sir Robert Stephens (3/12) **11.00 Echoes** (FM only) (r). Four impressions of past and present. 1: Sea Pictures (r) **11.00 Education Matters** (LW only) **11.30-12.00 Great Escapes** (FM only). Robert Kee presents four dramatic reconstructions of extraordinary escapes in war and peace (r) **11.30-12.00 Today in Parliament** (LW only) **12.00 News,** incl **12.27** Weather **12.30am The Late Book: Bright Lights, Big City.** Chris Eigeman reads Jay McInerney's classic tale of 1980s hedonism — Manhattan style (6/9) **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. MW 648; LW 105.6; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089.Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Money, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

Budget almost certain to push fiscal policy in an even more deflationary direction

Cup of cheer at judgment day

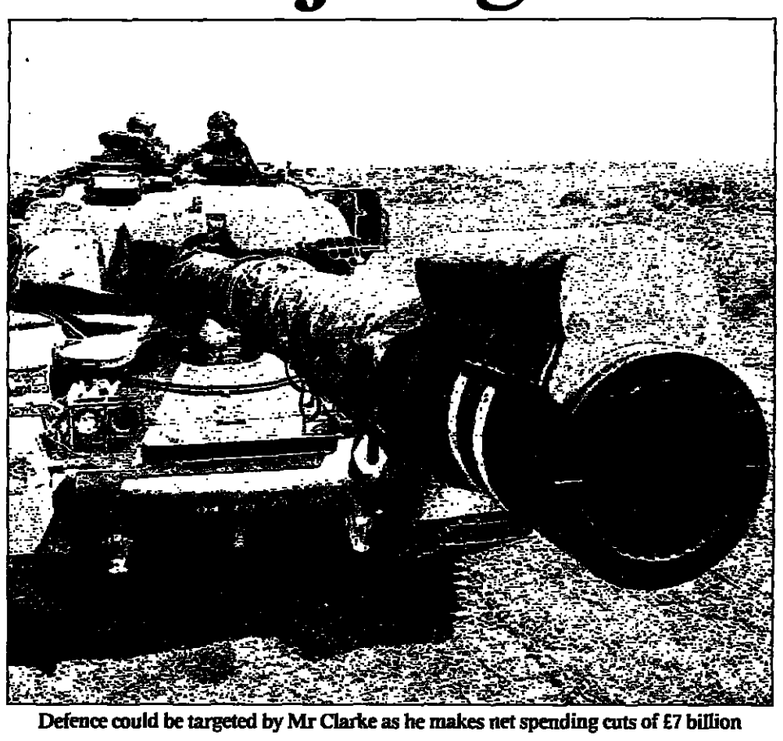
There is one prediction I can make with absolute confidence about tomorrow's Budget. It is that all predictions, including the ones below, will turn out wrong, at least in part. Nobody except a handful of Treasury officials and Cabinet ministers has seen the contents of the Budget box and anyone who claims to know exactly what is in it is either naive or lying. But, subject to this disclaimer, there have been enough hints, leaks and official efforts to massage expectations for some educated guesses:



ANATOLE KALETSKY

Macroeconomic policy — more fiscal tightening. The most important question in every Budget is the so-called "Budget Judgment": how much money the Chancellor will add to the economy by cutting taxes and/or raising public spending or take out of the economy by doing the reverse. The last two Budgets have been among the most deflationary in British history — and that is one of the main reasons why inflation is so low while industry is again on the brink of recession. But in spite of this hard experience — and in spite of all the headlines about tax cuts — tomorrow's Budget is almost certain to push fiscal policy in an even more deflationary direction. However much the Chancellor cuts taxes, I believe he will cut public spending plans by at least £2 billion more. He will do this, in spite of the imminent election and the much-remarked absence of a "feel-good" factor, because the Treasury's long-term plans for reducing the public sector borrowing requirement have gone badly awry, largely because of the unexpected weakness of the economy. Mr Clarke believes (in my view rightly) that he can offset the deflationary effect of putting Britain's public finances back in order by cutting interest rates. Provided he ignores the economic Neanderthals at the Bank of England and makes reductions in interest rates promptly, this will prove the right policy.

But rightly, or wrongly, my reading is that this deflationary fiscal policy is the one Mr Clarke is determined to pursue. In the long run, it is much healthier to have an economy with low public debts and low interest rates — and Mr Clarke seems to feel that the Government's one incontestable economic achievement has been to move Britain decisively in that direction. The PSBR for this year is likely to be about £28 billion, instead of the £21.5 billion predicted in the last Budget. Without any policy changes, the PSBR for 1996-97 would be about £21 billion instead of the £13 billion planned. I believe Mr Clarke will make it his priority to get next year's PSBR well below £20 billion and to show it vanishing entirely within three years.



Defence could be targeted by Mr Clarke as he makes net spending cuts of £7 billion

In sum, therefore, the net fiscal effect of the Budget should be a contraction of about £2 billion in comparison with the policies announced last year.

Public finance — big cuts in taxes and spending. My guess is that the £2 billion fiscal contraction will consist of £5 billion of net tax cuts, offset by £7 billion of net spending cuts: the New Control Total of £263 billion set last year for 1996-97 will instead be about £256 billion. If my estimates of spending cuts are over-ambitious, then I think the Chancellor will prove more tight-fisted on taxes. If he can find only £5 billion in spending economies, which seems a bare minimum, then he will reduce taxes by just £3 billion.

Public spending — Private Finance Initiative yields easy savings. The two biggest economies are easy to identify. At least £2 billion should be removed quite painlessly by the application of the Private Finance Initiative to the £22 billion capital spending programme. This will be surgery of the least-painful kind: a sharp cut in the public accounts without any reduction in actual capital spending.

Some £2 billion worth of new hospitals, prisons, school buildings, medical equipment, cars and so on will simply be redefined as private, instead of public, spending. The Chancellor will also cut £3 billion off the £6 billion "contingency reserve" set aside in the last Budget. While this is sometimes described pejoratively as "raiding" the reserve, it is actually a perfectly reasonable decision. The reserve is designed to cover unpredictable events, such as wars, natural disasters, strikes or external economic shocks. As the year in question draws closer, the unforeseen becomes, by definition, less likely and the contingency reserve is accordingly reduced. A further £1 billion is likely to be yielded by the lower than expected inflation (as measured by the GDP deflator) since last year.

> Mr Clarke will make a priority of getting next year's PSBR figure well below the £20bn mark

Against the resulting £6 billion in "easy" economies, the Chancellor is likely to find some £1 billion extra on education and health spending that falls outside the PFI. This leaves net savings of £5 billion. To get above that figure and create scope for bigger than expected tax cuts, Mr Clarke will have to make some real cuts in previously planned programmes. One likely contender is Civil Service running costs, where an across-the-board reduction of 2 or 3 per cent could be justified by the rapid productivity growth being achieved in private-service industries with computer technology. Such moves could yield more than £500 million.

Miscellaneous cuts in other programmes, such as roads, social security and defence, combined with extra revenues from privatisations, should provide at least a further £1 billion, adding up to total net spending cuts of £7 billion.

Income tax. A few pence off the standard rate is not enough. Because of the scope for such big reductions in spending plus a further £1 billion or so available from low-visibility indirect taxes (see below), I expect Mr Clarke to cut income tax by £5 billion or £6 billion, rather than the £3 billion generally assumed by financial markets. Assuming he has that much to spare, he will probably try to spread his favours quite widely, in spite of the urgings of some of his political advisers to concentrate all his resources on a single eye-catching measure: a 3p cut in the standard rate of tax (which would cost £6 billion).

Mr Clarke realises that even such a big reduction would not be politically foolproof. It would immediately draw comparisons with the huge tax increases the Tories have imposed in the past two years, which, even by the Treasury's own admission, are equivalent to 7p on the standard rate. It would also confirm Labour's accusation that the Tories will simply finance eye-catching cuts in the standard rate, which favour the rich, by inexorably increasing VAT and other indirect taxes.

To counter such arguments, Mr Clarke is likely to cut the standard rate by only 1p and to use his remaining £3 billion of largesse to double the 20p lower tax band from £3,050 to £6,000. He may also announce a modest symbolic increase in the married couple's allowance or offer a small sop to the housing market. He could promise to maintain mortgage tax relief — and raise the limit for relief modestly from the present £30,000.

Indirect taxes: drink, but don't drive. On indirect taxes, Mr Clarke faces several opportunities and challenges, which ought to be broadly offsetting in revenue terms. The main challenge is the damage done to the British licensed trade — and increasingly to Government revenues — by cross-Channel shopping for alcohol. This may prompt a big reduction in duties, especially on spirits. The opportunity would be to pay for this popular pre-Christmas handout with an increase in motoring, tobacco and insurance taxes. With world oil prices low and the alleged ecological benefits of diesel and "super unleaded" petrol now discredited, the duty on diesel and unleaded petrol could easily rise to the level now paid on leaded fuel. The 2.5 per cent insurance premium tax introduced in the last Budget could easily be doubled, yielding another £1 billion to be taken off income and alcohol taxes.

To summarise. It will be a good Budget if you drink and don't drive; if you pay your income tax, and you're not a civil servant doing a job that could be done just as well by a computer.

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Codebreakers brought to book

IT'S nice to talk, we are told, but BT's October edition of the London telephone book devoted to business and service numbers has left the business community exasperated. The full postal codes of business houses are missing.

BT insists: "The full codes used to be supplied to us by the Royal Mail under a commercial arrangement. (Royal Mail paid BT to have them printed). Royal Mail has subsequently decided to cease the arrangement".

Meanwhile, Royal Mail insists full postal codes are available on disk, but asserts that it is the computers at BT that cannot handle the information. BT says it didn't want to print only some postal codes and not others, hence their total omission from the October book. However, BT is investigating improving its own data bank and holds out hope that perhaps next year full codes will appear again.

If only the computers knew that it was good to talk.

Shorter Ken

LIVELY betting is reported by *The City Inder* on how long the Chancellor will be standing on his feet — in his best brown shoes — for tomorrow's Budget speech. The book opened with a bid of 73 minutes, and has since moved up to 83-87 minutes. The reference point to determine the result will be that recorded in *The Times*. The current spread suggests Our Ken will be shorter, but not necessarily sweeter, this year than last. In 1994, the Chancellor was on his feet for one hour and 26 minutes before uttering the time honoured phrase "I commend it to the House".

Adding dollars

IF the Chancellor is really desperate for tax raising ideas, here's one from America. The fourth annual currency survey commissioned by the Visa/PLUS International ATM Network says more than a third of Americans would accept advertising on dollar bills if it meant the Federal Government could reduce the US deficit and lower taxes.

Marlborough man

IS Sir Patrick Sheehy, who retires from British American Tobacco on December 31, letting the side down? On December 30, he becomes chairman of a Lloyd's underwriting agency called Marlborough — a name more readily associated with a cigarette made by rival Philip Morris. .

On the scent

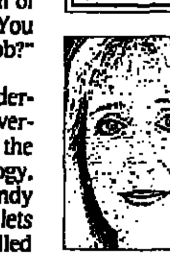
READERS have been kind in suggesting names for any perfume British Airways might market commercially (*City Diary*, November 20). They include: Ascent, Flotsam Dope, Belle Aire, Terminal Aroma, Speedbird and Balneary Aqua.

COLIN CAMPBELL

صورة من الاصل

Audience involvement not to be sniffed at

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

Well, that scratch 'n' sniff booklet never left my side. The BBC had issued it to accompany certain family programmes, in aid of Children in Need. The concept was simple enough. Every time a "Pongo" picture appeared on screen, I grabbed my booklet, scratched with my fingernail, clamped it to my nostrils, and inhaled frantically with a puzzled and disappointed expression. "Gas? Roses? Bacon sandwiches?" I am not wholly against Smell-O-Vision, although the scratching is a bit undignified. It's just that I have an unreliable sense of smell, and a suitable insecurity about it. Thus, for example, "My dog's got *no nose*" is a joke I never recollect without discomfort.

Still, look on the bright side. If my enjoyment of Vic and Bob's wildlife film **A Nose Through Nature** (BBC1) yesterday afternoon was not much enhanced by yelling "Burning wool! Avocado! Venice!", I could still pretend to use it to intensify the pleasure of other programmes. During last night's first *Beatles Anthology*, for example, the booklet let out a great supernatural waft of record vinyl circa 1963: while in the last instalment of *The Final Cut*, rancid baloney came off the page in such gales that it almost blew my head off.

Back with Vic and Bob's smelly excursion, however, we learned a great many facts about animal urine, which will have tickled the young-uns, who like that sort of thing. Odours A, B and C all smelled of shiny booklet and nothing else, and I began to grow suspicious that a national placebo experiment was taking place. But then Smell D — of a wild dog colony — tickled something in the nostril and I relaxed. Vic and Bob teased us with pictures of scenes we would not wish to experience nasally under any circumstances — the messy evacuation of a hippo's bowel, for example — and generally did a brilliant job of presenting. Bushbabies follow the trail of their own urine in the dark. "You did that once, didn't you Bob?" said Vic.

Moreover, anyone still wondering why man invented the answering machine need only see how the hyena — lacking our technology, but possessed instead of a handy telescopic anal protuberance — lets his friends know that he called while they were out.

Back at the Cavern, things were hotting up for the Beatles and the vinyl was melting on the Dansette turntable, yet **The Beatles Anthology** (ITV) was a curiously under-excited confection. Like the video for *Free as a Bird*, its main priority was seamlessness. To this end, an enormous number of different interviews with those lovable mop-heads had been woven together, to rehearse the well-worn story of the schoolboy origins and the Hamburg sojourn. What happened to the flight into Egypt? No, hang on, that was someone else. But the trouble is, everyone over the age of 30 knows this stuff already, and people under 30 are not interested. A cartoon in this week's *Spectator* shows a confused youngster asking a High Court judge, "Who are the Beatles?"

And so the film grazed on soundbites, with the disconcerting effect that George Harrison would take up the story in middle age (looking confusingly like Graham Nash), continue it as a fresh-faced boy in a collarless suit, and then add another bit with a moustache. Forget the vinyl; the real smell of *The Beatles Anthology* should have been scissors and paste.

A useful comparison was the *Tx* film on Saturday night — **The Final Kick** (BBC2) — a magnificent editing job which drew attention to the story, rather than to itself. *The Final Kick* concerned last year's World Cup Final, a drawn-out, painful, teeth-pulling match between Brazil and Italy which, as we all recall, continued goal-less for so long that it knocked Joan Bakewell's *Heart of the Matter* back to midnight. By a great feat of pre-planning, Andreas Rogenhagen had placed camera teams in 40 countries, to film reaction to the match — from Belorussian prisoners to monks in Prague, and the court of a Rasta potentate in Cameroon. The result was exceptional. At the final missed penalty kick, the world went mad — except for the Italians. You know Walworth Road after the last election? By the looks of things, it was worse than *that*.

Now that *Dressing for Breakfast* (Channel 4) has joined ITV's *Faith in the Future*, Friday night boasts two ho-hum-ho half-hour sit-coms in which single women talk frankly about cellulite and oral sex. Doubtless this is a necessary transition in the history of culture and will lead one day to British television producing a version of *Ellen*. In the meantime, however — and I hope nobody minds me saying this — it would be awfully nice to have some gardening on as well.

And so, farewell to **The Final Cut** (BBC1). Double-crossed by his wife, Elizabeth, Francis Urquhart took a sniper bullet on Thatcher Day and rolled those lizardy eyes for the last time. "Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow," commented the literate viewers briskly, before bustling off to the kettle. Last week, I suggested that Birnam Wood would come to Dunsinane and in fact was not far wrong, for last night's Cyprus woodland scenes employed that same cunning device of a few branches and leaves standing in for the real thing. "Metonymy" is what they call this in lit. crit. — it means the part for the whole, like saying "sail" when you mean "ship".

But in television drama, it is a shorthand too far; and perversely, *The Final Cut* adhered to metonymy to the end. In Cyprus, a single tree burned, to represent a vast forest fire. Economical with the vérité; that was the trouble with *The Final Cut*.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (58718)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (94284379)

9.10 Kilroy (s) (4817447) **10.00 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5271398)

10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (1584486)

10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (69756)

12.00 News (Ceefax) weather (9269350) **12.05pm Pebble Mill.** With Chris de Burgh (s) (4332398) **12.50 Regional news** and weather (23032350)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (28282)

1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (25004089) **1.55 Knots Landing** (s) (5202195) **2.40 The Clothes Show** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (2056805) **3.05 Incognito** (s) (1653263)

3.30 Philbert the Frog (s) (6554973) **3.35 Oakie Doke** (s) (5371447) **3.45 Dear Mr Barker** (s) (5384911) **4.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks** (r) (2949379) **4.15 Phantom 2040** (Ceefax) (s) (6804114) **4.35 Grange Hill** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (1425737)

5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (8447843)

5.10 Blue Peter (Ceefax) (s) (5033244)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (249422)

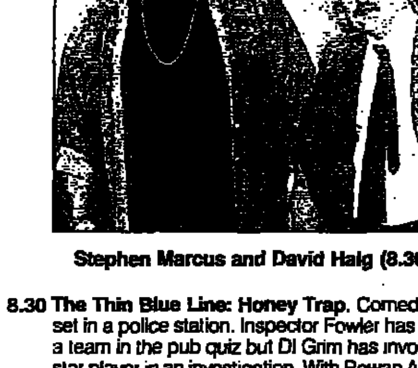
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (379)

6.30 Regional news magazines (331)

7.00 Telly Addicts Trivia quiz. (Ceefax) (s) (6850)

7.30 Watchdog. (Ceefax) (s) (843)

8.00 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (6398)



Stephen Marcus and David Haig (8.30pm)

8.30 The Thin Blue Line: Honey Trap. Comedy series set in a police station. Inspector Fowler has entered a team in the pub quiz but DI Grim has involved the star player in an investigation. With Rowan Atkinson, Kevin Allen and Mina Anwar (Ceefax) (s) (5805)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9843)

9.30 Panorama. A report on race relations in America. (Ceefax) (824027)

10.10 Chef! Fame is the Spur. While Gareth progresses to television cookery programmes, his wife takes over the running of the restaurant. With Lenny Henry (r) (Ceefax) (s) (935669) **WALES: 10.10** CyberWales (935669) **10.40** Chef! (609114) **11.10** Film 95 with Barry Norman (660244) **11.40** Film. Neon Empire (1991) (832737) **1.35am-2.35** Snooker (1194428)

10.40 Film 95 with Barry Norman. Including reviews of *Murder in the First*, *Candyman II*, and *In the Bleak Midwinter*, starring Richard Briers, Joan Collins and John Sessions; plus Keanu Reeves talking about *Johnny Mnemonic* (Ceefax) (s) (609114)

11.10 FILM: Neon Empire (1991) with Ray Sharkey, Martin Landau, Gary Busey and Harry Guardino. Junior Moloff, a ruthless gangster boss, sets his sights on turning the sleepy backwater of 1940s Las Vegas into a gambling paradise. Directed by Larry Peerce (s) (977114)

1.05am Snooker. *Highlights of today's play from the Royal Liver Assurance UK Championships* (s) (4900461)

2.05 Weather (7963683)

BBC2

6.00am Technology Season: Metropolis (75973) **6.30** Nature by Design (98553)

7.00 Breakfast News With signing (4501331)

7.15 Lassie (r) (4520466) **7.35 The Legend of Prince Valiant** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (1713973) **8.00 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3997114) **8.25 Songs of Praise** from Dewsbury (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5394379)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (2934927)

2.00 Brum (r) (47570176)

2.10 Snooker. Third round action in the Royal Liver Assurance UK championship (s). Includes **News**, and weather at **3.00** (123185) **3.55 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6356008)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (244)

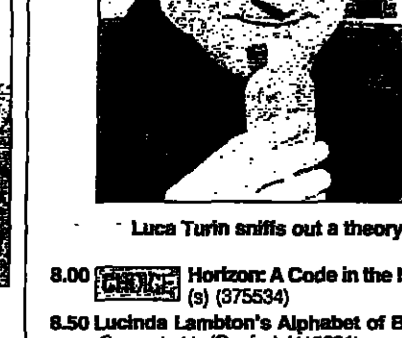
4.30 Snooker Further coverage (60553)

6.00 Space Precinct. Futuristic police drama series created by Gerry Anderson. (Ceefax) (s) (957466)

6.45 The O Zone. Pop music magazine (s) (543621)

7.00 People's Century: 1927 — Great Escape. Audiences from the cinemas of the 1920s and 1930s explain how they were influenced by the film stars of the day (r). (Ceefax) (s) (146718)

7.50 Close Up. The director Terry Gilliam selects a scene from Fellini's *8½* (s) (120114)



Luca Turin sniffs out a theory (8.00pm)

8.00 CHOICE **Horizon: A Code in the Nose** (Ceefax) (s) (375534)

8.50 Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet of Britain. *C is for Concrete* (r). (Ceefax) (413621)

9.00 The X Files: Die Hand die verletzt. Science-fiction drama series about two FBI agents investigating cases of the paranormal. Teenagers come across a mysterious altar in a remote area of New Hampshire. When one of them recites a black magic incantation in order to scare his girlfriend, a force is released and attacks one of the group. (Ceefax) (s) (399640)

9.45 CHOICE **Nature Special: City Trees — Under the Axe?** (Ceefax) (s) (833640)

10.30 Newsnight with Kirsty Wark (122466)

11.15 In Your Face. The second of three films about Scottish writers. Irvine Welsh's first novel, *Trainspotting*, about Edinburgh junkies, was Booker-nominated and adapted for both stage and screen. The programme contains strong language and depicts physical and sexual violence that some viewers may find disturbing (s) (447242)

11.55 Weather (697718)

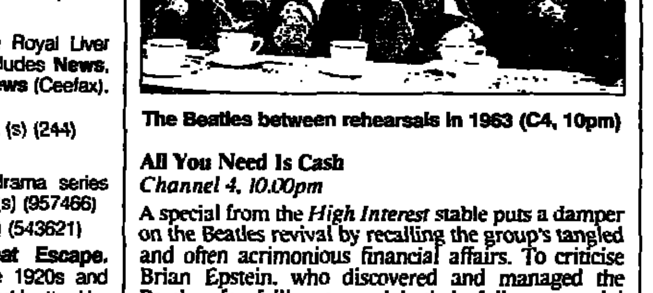
12.00 Midnight Hour with Sir Bernard Ingham. Political chat show (s) (91393)

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

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CHOICE



The Beatles between rehearsals in 1963 (C4, 10pm)

All You Need Is Cash
Channel 4, 10.00pm

A special from the *High Interest* stable puts a damper on the Beatles revival by recalling the group's tangled and often acrimonious financial affairs. To criticise Brian Epstein, who discovered and managed the Beatles, for failing to exploit their full commercial potential is a mite unfair. There had not been anything like the Beatles before and Epstein was working in largely unknown territory. But the story of Apple Corps, initially set up to avoid paying high rates of tax, and the subsequent feud between Lennon and McCartney which led to the break-up of the group, reflects badly on all concerned. Now the Beatles are big business once again, even if the rights to more than 200 songs are owned by Sony.

Horizon: A Code in the Nose
BBC2, 8.00pm

Despite the best efforts of biologists, the mechanics of how we smell are still a mystery. Luca Turin, a biophysicist at University College London, and a collector of perfumes, thinks he has the answer. But his theory contradicts the received wisdom and has not gone unchallenged. At the core of Isabelle Roslin's film is a debate between Turin and another British scientist, John Amoore. In the 1950s Amoore's research led him to the theory that the nose has receptors which detect the shape of molecules. Turin, on the other hand, claims that it *is* not shapes the nose responds to, but vibrations. If he is right the implications for the perfume and food industries, and the detection of pollution, could be far-reaching.

Nature Special: City Trees — Under the Axe?
BBC2, 9.45pm

A timely documentary for National Tree Week argues that we should do more to preserve the trees which add so much to the quality of our towns and cities. The case is unanswerable. Trees soften the harsh lines of buildings, cool the air in summer and keep it warm in winter. Their foliage filters pollution and aborbs noise. And each city tree is a complex eco-system, home to thousands of species of wildlife. Yet we seem to be doing our best to destroy this magnificent asset. We kill trees with herbicides or through sheer neglect and we tear them down to make way for roads and supermarkets. The latest culprits are the trench-building cable television companies.

Inside Out: Ivy's Genes
Channel 4, 8.00pm

As the media herald a genetic Utopia where disabilities are screened out, Tom Shakespeare ponders the future of *his* seven-year-old daughter, Ivy. Both have achondroplasia, a condition causing restricted growth. So has Shakespeare's father. But shorter arms and legs than most of the population, and differently shaped skulls, are no barrier to a full life. Tom is a sociology lecturer and his father a retired doctor. The argument of his film is that genetic advances may put pressure on parents not to go through with the birth of disabled children. *In China* the State has already decreed this. Tom's hope for Ivy, when she contemplates having children, is that society will accept *her difference* and value *her* as an individual.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (9511737)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep. Quiz (s) (9860621)

9.55 London Today (Teletext) (5289094)

10.00 The Time ... the Place (s) (8487911)

10.35 This Morning. Magazine show (72501973)

12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (9265534)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) (9205398)

12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (9280089) **1.25 Coronation Street** (r) (Teletext) (36092337) **1.55 Shortland Street** (92420992) **2.20 Blue Heelers** (8177263)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (8349379)

3.25 London Today (Teletext) (8331350)

3.30 The Slow Norris (s) (5367244) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (6569805) **3.50 Wolves, Witches and Giants: the Witch and the Comb** (s) (5361060) **4.05 Sooty and Co** (s) (6352282) **4.30 Where's Wally?** (r) (1420282) **4.50 How 2** (Teletext) (7498992)

5.10 After 5. Max Bygraves and his Christmas album. (Teletext) (7477027)

5.40 ITN News and weather (Teletext) (303824)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers air their views (226282)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (447)

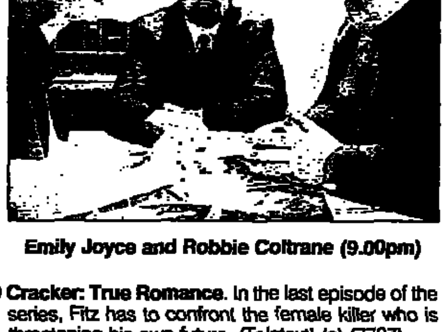
6.30 London Tonight regional news (Teletext) (517)

7.00 NEW **Wish You Were Here.** Judith Chalmers samples an all-inclusive family package holiday on the Greek island of Evia. John Carter goes roaming in South Africa and Anna Walker visits a summer camp for children. (Teletext) (2718)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (911)

8.00 Bruce's Price is Right. Game show. Guess the price to win the prize. (Teletext) (s) (1466)

8.30 World in Action. Are the Serbs producing chemical weapons? (Teletext) (s) (1783)



Emily Joyce and Robbie Coltrane (9.00pm)

9.00 Cracker: True Romance. In the last episode of the series, Fitz has to confront the female killer who is threatening his own future. (Teletext) (s) (7737)

10.00 ITN News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (44331)

10.30 London Tonight regional news (Teletext) (232485)

10.40 The Good Sex Guide Abroad. (Teletext) (s) (694282)

11.10 007 ... The Return. Mariella Frostrup reports from the premiere of *Goldeneye* (474466)

12.10am Short Story Cinema: Override. An adventure story set in a future where single mothers on welfare are forced to work as truckers (6087770)

12.40 Endsleigh League Extra (3593138)

1.30 Sport AM (1630732)

2.25 Quiz Night (1698683)

2.50 FILM: This Man Stands Alone (1979). During the 1960s, a minister becomes a lawman in a small town in Alabama. Starring Lou Gossett Jr. Directed by Jerrold Freedman (387848)

4.25 On the Live Side (r) (s) (68169003)

4.35 Best of British Motorsport *(86856848)*

5.00 The Chrystal Rose Show *(r) (s)* (62428)

5.30 ITN Morning News (96848). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.30am Ulysses 31 (r) (83621)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (18805)

9.00 The Golden Girls (r) (Teletext) (s) (61008)

9.30 Schools: Geography (4304737) **9.45** Book Box (4392992) **10.00** Stage Two Science (3281176) **10.15** Learn Sign Language (2151756) **10.20** Place and People (3285992) **10.40** The English Programme (1826008) **11.05** Encyclopaedia Galactica (7816843) **11.15** The Mix (6230114) **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (4645669) **11.45** Junior Technology (4633824). (Teletext) (s)

12.00 Crawshaw's Sketching and Drawing Course. (Teletext) (s) (41244)

12.30pm Sesame Street. The guest is Marisa Tomei (27805) **1.30 Gumdrop** followed by **Bush Tales, the Magic Roundabout** and **Must!** (25020027)

1.55 Pete Smith Specialties: Out For Fun with Dave O'Brien (15348089)

2.05 FILM: Jubal (1955). Off-beat western (spot the *Othello* parallel), with Glenn Ford, Ernest Borgnine, Rod Steiger and Valerie French. Directed by Delmer Daves (734379)

4.00 Think Tank. (Teletext) (s) (640) **4.30 Fifteen To One** with William G. Stewart. (Teletext) (s) (824)

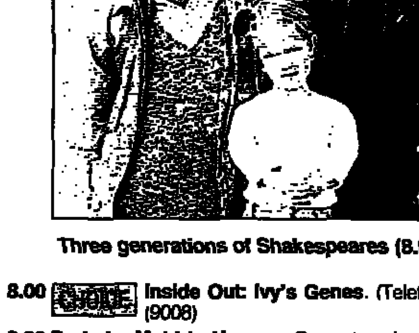
5.00 Love in the Afternoon. Romantic magazine series (2331)

6.00 Roseanne. (r). (Teletext) (s) (319)

6.30 Hollyoaks. Phil Redmond's teen soap set in Chester. Kurt is worried about Tony, who has been missing all night; Natasha tries to sort out Sarah's life. (Teletext) (s) (669)

7.00 Channel 4 News. Includes headlines and weather at 7.30. (Teletext) (878805)

7.55 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (190973)



Three generations of Shakespeares (8.00pm)

8.00 CHOICE **Inside Out: Ivy's Genes.** (Teletext) (s) (9008)

8.30 Porkpie: Maid in Heaven. Comedy spin-off from *Desmond's*. (Teletext) (s) (1843)

9.00 The Factory: They Say We're Work-Shy. The third of a five-part documentary series filmed at a Liverpool factory making gasfires. (Teletext) (s) (391008)

9.45 Holy Places: Zoroastrian House. A look at the ancient religion's only place of worship in Europe — a former Roman Catholic school, in a quiet, residential north London street, which was acquired 15 years ago. (Teletext) (s) (666992)

10.00 CHOICE **All You Need Is Cash.** (Teletext) (s) (1814114)

11.05 The American Football Big Match. Highlights from the NFL (301076)

12.25am Trans World Sport. Extreme sporting action (r) (9659472)

1.25 Let the Blood Run Free. Black comedy series set in an Australian city hospital (r) (s) (3284935)

1.55 FILM: *You Only Live Once* *(1937, b/w) starring Henry Fonda and Sylvia Sidney. Crime drama set during the Depression. Directed by Fritz Lang (9372645). Ends at* **3.25**

4.00-5.00 Schools: *Making Sense of Science* (93954)

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (9280089) **1.25** Home and Away (36092337) **1.55** A Country Practice (25007176) **2.25-3.20** Blue Heelers (8543534) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (7477027) **6.25** Anglia Weather (283602) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (517) **10.40** Cover Story (694282) **11.10-11.40** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (688640) **1.20am** Film Ragen (2772751) **2.50** Music Box Profile (2698461) **3.05** Sport AM (6698374) **4.00** Curtis Calls (19365138) **4.05** Best of British Motorsport (83354751) **4.30** The Time.. the Place (64374) **5.00** The Real Ghostbusters (62428)

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.55-2.20 A Country Practice (92420992) **3.25-3.30** Central News (8331350) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (7477027) **6.25** Central News and Weather (205640) **7.00-7.30** Wish You Were Here. . ? (2718) **11.10** Crime Story (474466) **12.10am** Sledge Hammer (6087770) **4.25** Jobfinder (3011461) **5.20** Asian Eye (4615119)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (9280089) **1.25** Home and Away (11723379) **1.50** Murder, She Wrote (8518263) **2.50-3.20** Gardeners' Diary (2130263) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (7477027) **6.25-7.00** Granada Tonight (205640) **11.10** The Sporting Press (112282) **11.25** World Championship Boxing (742379) **12.20am-12.40** Short Story Cinema (6817225) **4.25-4.35** Jobfinder (68169003)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.55-1.20 Shortland Street (7022805) **1.20** Coronation Street (35842896) **2.20-3.20** Side Effects (8177263) **5.10-5.40** What's My Line? (7477027) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (517) **10.45** The West Story (720331) **11.15** Canvas (727244) **11.45** Spotlight (759843) **12.15am** Good Advice (6104374) **4.25** Jobfinder (68169003)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 5.10-5.40 The Electric Chair (7477027) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (517) **10.45** Classical Gas (797263) **11.45** Prisoner Cell Block H (440534)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (9280089) **1.25** Home and Away (36092337) **1.55** A Country Practice (25007176) **2.25-3.20** Blue Heelers (6543534) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (7477027) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (447) **6.30-7.00** Down by the River (517) **10.45** The Pier (670602) **11.10** The Listings (641379) **11.15** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (727244) **11.45** Beyond Reason (759843) **12.15am** The Hidden Room (6104374) **1.20** Film: Ragen (2772751) **2.50** Music Box Profile (2698461) **3.05** Sport AM (6698374) **4.00** Curtis Calls (19365138) **4.05** Best of British Motorsport (83354751) **4.30** The Time.. the Place (64374) **5.00** Freescreen (62428)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (9280089) **1.25** Home and Away (36092337) **1.55** High Road (25007176) **2.25** Gardeners' Diary (70687640) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (2130263) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (7477027) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (47517) **11.10** Fair's Fair (688640) **11.40** Side Effects (172621) **4.25am** Jobfinder (68169003)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (9280089) **1.25** Home and Away (36092337) **1.55** A Country Practice (92420992) **2.20** An Invasion to Remember (70679621) **2.50** Help Yourself (6722911) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (2064824) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (7477027) **5.55** Calendar. (592553) **6.30-7.00** The Dales Diary (517) **10.40** New Voices. In Bed with Jimmy Monty (694282) **11.10** The Good Sex Guide Abroad (688640) **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (359466) **12.55am** Endsleigh League Extra (1944041) **1.20** Film. A Father's Revenge (759480) **2.55** The New Music (1402461) **3.50** On the Live Side (18158751) **4.20** Jobfinder (2112461)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (18805) **9.00** The Golden Girls, (61008) **9.30** Schools. Geography (4304737) **9.45** Tro Yn Ol (7216553) **10.05** Sang Di Fang (3280447) **10.20** Place and People (3285992) **10.40** The English Programme (1809331) **11.05** Encyclopedia Galactica (7816843) **11.15** Flenestr (6230114) **11.30** Penawdau (4645669) **11.45** Junior Technology (4633824) **12.00pm** Right to reply (41244) **12.30** Katie and Orbie (81350) **1.00** Sloth Meithrin (11992) **1.30** Crawshaws Sketching and Drawing (80621) **2.00** Film: Seven Thieves (707350) **3.50** Terrytoons (6556331) **4.00** Think Tank (640) **4.30** Simply the Best (824) **5.00** 5 Pump: Rownd A Rownd (8430553) **5.10** 5 Pump:Fleil (8436737) **5.20** 5 Pump Tochaben! (5664244) **5.30** Fifteen To One (33109534) **7.25** Y Byd Ar Bedwar (504843) **8.00** Fo A Fe: Mater O Wyliau (9008) **8.30** News (1843) **9.00** Homicide — Life On The Streets (5379) **10.00** Sgorio (1614114) **11.05** The American Football Big Match (138843) **11.20** Fraser (842331) **12.50am** Porkpie (3713022) **1.20-1.50** Inside Out: Ivy's Genes (3285664)

SATELLITE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE

7.00am The DJ Kat Show (62060) **8.00** Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (99805) **8.30** Jeopardy (98176) **9.00** Court TV (12756) **9.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (81176) **10.30** Concentration (15440) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (64008) **12.00** Spellbound (92992) **12.30pm** Designing Women (41756) **1.00** The Waltons (39911) **2.00** Geraldo (31282) **3.00** Court TV (1485) **3.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (9117640) **4.20** Undun (1648992) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (2737) **6.00** Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (5319) **6.30** Spellbound (4669) **7.00** LAPD (3466) **7.30** M*A*S*H (3553) **8.00** Saturday Night, Sunday Morning (2114) **8.30** Revelations (1621) **9.00** Police Rescue (56602) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (66089) **11.00** Law and Order (46973) **12.00** David Letterman (9045886) **12.45am** The Untouchables (3665645) **1.30** Smouldering Lust (28645) **2.00-6.00** *Hit Mix* (8723954)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (50728527) **10.10** CBS 60 Minutes (8307689) **11.00** News and Business (492824) **1.30pm** CBS News (51447) **2.30** Parliament Live (15824) **3.30** Parliament Live (2447) **4.00** News and Business (25244) **5.00** Live at Five (87379) **6.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton (60866621) **8.10** CBS 60 Minutes (900244) **9.00** News and Business (146973) **11.30** CBS News (10244) **12.30am** ABC News (76770) **1.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton Replay (59515) **2.10** CBS 60 Minutes **3.30** Parliament Replay (89180) **4.30** CBS News (80428) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (54886)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (4047282) **10.00 How the West Was Fun** (1993) (12244) **12.00 Silver Bears** (1978) (45485) **2.00pm Father Hood** (1993) (80689) **4.00 The Butter Cream Gang** (1992) (7669) **6.00 How the West Was Fun** (1993) (25992) **7.30 Close-Up: The Beverly Hillbillies** (8621) **8.00 Father Hood** (1993) (65350) **10.00 Colour of Love** (1992) (169008) **11.45 The Liar's Club** (1994) (714027) **1.20am Martin's Day** (1984) (200799) **2.55 Men Don't Tell** (1993) (939225) **4.30-6.00 The Butter Cream Gang** (1992) (78683)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Once Upon a Honeymoon (1942) (2911) **6.00 Top Hat** (1935) (66027) **8.00 All Night Long** (1981) (38244) **10.00 Star Wars** (1977) (23093824) **12.10am Heaven's Gate** (1980) (91663732) **2.40-3.50 Horse Feathers** (1932) (7627316)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Tarzan the Magnificent (1960) (95911) **8.00 Robinson Crusoe** (1972) (96027) **9.00 Aladdin** (1993) (31553) **10.00 Mrs Lambert Remembers Love** (1991) (43114) **12.00 Houdini** (1953) (43027) **2.00pm The McConnell Story** (1955) (71911) **4.00 Robinson Crusoe** (1972) (43640) **5.00 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea** (1985) (5447) **6.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles III** (1992) (68447) **8.00 Search for Grace** (1994) (63992) **10.00 Demolition Man** (1993) (30176) **12.00 Cyborg 2** (1993) (796770) **1.40am Solar Crisis** (1992) (361374) **3.35-5.35 Tarzan the Magnificent** (1960) (54985916)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.

6.00am Umbrella Tree (32880263) **6.30** Muppet (27992282) **7.00** Pooh (67712398) **7.30** Ducktales (67791805) **8.00** Chip (82794621) **8.30** Wonderland (82793992) **9.00** Fraggle Rock (82784244) **9.30** Pooh (90127718) **10.00** Dumbo (27983534) **10.30** Quack Attack (82713756) **11.00** Walt Disney (67700553) **12.00** FILM: The Horse in the Gray Flannel Suit (27803398) **2.00pm** Wonderland (78833718) **2.30** Umbrella Tree (86530640) **3.00** Fraggle Rock (78845553) **3.30** Pooh (86542485) **4.00** Quack Attack (86521992) **4.30** Ducktales (86527176) **5.00** Chip (78657398) **5.30** Danger Bay (86541756) **6.00** Tarzan (86548669) **6.30** Dinosaurs (86522621) **7.00** Boy Meets World (78637534) **7.30** Thunder Alley (86528805) **8.00-10.00** FILM: Double Dynamite (99703718)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Golf (66244) **9.00** Cross-Country Skiing (79737) **10.00** Alpine Skiing (98534) **11.00** Boxing (13398) **12.00** Motorsports (55398) **1.00pm** Truck Racing (31718) **2.00** Offroad (77008) **3.00** Touring Car (2379) **3.30** Darts (49114) **4.30** Weightlifting (42076) **5.30** Tractor Pulling (93114) **6.30** News (6447) **7.00** Speedworld (78909) **9.00** Football (33814) **10.00** Pro Wrestling (83391) **11.00** Eurogolf (84263) **12.00-12.30am** News (86409)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Speed and Beauty (90447) **7.30** Racing News (26422) **8.00** Watersports (32843) **9.00** Aerobics Oz Style (18379) **9.30**



Rogers and Astaire (Sky Movies Gold, 6pm)

Powerboat (47379) **10.00** Golf (50843) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (21843) **12.30pm** Arsenal v Blackburn, Aberdeen v Dundee (269535) **3.30** Speed (4843) **4.00** American Sports (70718) **5.00** Max Out (2756) **5.30** Windsurfing (3114) **6.00** Sports (9517) **6.30** Tartan Extra (1379) **7.00** Nott Forest v Man United (88452027) **10.15** Sports (901244) **10.45** Tartan Extra (933843) **11.15** Bushido (870195) **12.15am** Football (295798) **2.15-2.45** Sports (315312)

SKY SPORTS GOLD

10.00pm Cricket Hall of Fame (5213992) **10.30** Bobby Charlton's Scrapbook (8580973) **12.00-1.00am** Golf (4976138)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

4.00am Living Word **5.00** Kenneth Copeland **5.30** Kidz TV **5.45** Entertainment **6.15** Ulf Ekman **6.45-7.00** Music Television

SKY SOAP

7.00am Guiding Light (1198350) **7.55** As the World Turns (8430640) **8.50** Peyton Place (2326669) **9.20** Days of our Lives (2916331) **10.10-11.00** Another World (1706602)

SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Globetrotter (2275060) **11.30** Independent Travellers (1454263) **12.30pm** Pierre Franey (1250466) **1.00** Around the World (9958447) **1.30** Travel Guide (1259737) **2.00** Trailside (6955737) **2.30** On Top of the World (6528398) **3.00** Getaway (6934244) **3.30-4.00** Boomerang (6524843)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Our Century Special (2299640) **5.00** History Alive Special (6958824) **6.00-7.00** Biography (1268466)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

7.00pm Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (6969553) **7.30** Ray Bradbury Theatre (6500263) **8.00-10.00** FILM: House of the Long Shadows (9587466)

TLC

9.00am Painting (8928718) **9.30** Martha Stewart (2768379) **10.00** Our House (4761534) **10.30** Get Well (8917602) **11.00** Only Human (2385485) **11.45** Draw (25847669) **12.00** Psychology (8931282) **12.30pm** Jimmy's (2762195) **1.00** Martha Stewart (5319843) **1.30** Painting (2761466) **2.00** Hot House (4762263) **3.00** Gardens (7140843) **3.30-4.00** Our House (6030843)

UK GOLD

7.00am Angels (5389602) **7.30** Neighbours (5309737) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (8930553) **8.30** EastEnders (8939824) **9.00** The Bill (8920176) **9.30** The Sullivans (2760737) **10.00** Secret Army (5397621) **11.00** Dallas (5317485) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (8933640) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2764553) **1.00** EastEnders (5388973) **1.30** The Bill (2763824) **2.00** The Sullivans (63617466) **2.25** Are You Being Served? (6986992) **3.00** Angels (7119973) **3.30** Eldorado (6009973) **4.00** Casualty (19441089) **5.05** Generation Game (69129263) **6.15** Kenny's Comic Cuts (1191379) **6.25** EastEnders (6127602) **7.00** Eldorado (7134282) **7.30** Taxi (6018621) **8.00** George and Mildred (7110602) **8.30** Alas Smith and Jones (7139737) **9.00** Capital City (4157843) **10.00** The Bill (6271263) **10.35** Top of the Pops (6762534) **11.25** KYTV (4242758) **12.05am** Dr Who (2637393) **12.35** FILM: Rough Shoot (77868206) **2.05** Shopping (4903022)

TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (67319) **6.30** Pugwall (32756) **7.00** Degrassi (52008) **7.30** Ready or Not (64843) **8.00** Sweet Valley (31244) **8.30** Casper (3117244) **8.45** Dinobabies (3145027) **9.00** Tiny TCC (638824) **12.00** Tiny (676824) **2.30pm** Happily Ever After (3756) **3.00** Sonic (1669) **3.30** Panther (5973) **4.00** California (4006) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley (3992)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Garbage (7210176) **6.15** Grimmy (7208331) **6.30** Turtles (58973) **7.00** Batfink (9656466) **7.05** Turtles (1018379) **7.45** Rugrats (204718) **8.15** Doug (399350) **8.45** Ferals (9966331) **9.00** Nick (9311843) **12.30pm** Monsters (49737) **1.00** Clarissa (80060) **1.30** Max (48008) **2.00** Racer (6718) **2.30** Galaxy (4440) **3.00** Duckula (8553) **3.30** Pet Shop (2485) **4.00** Turtles (1992) **4.30** Rugrats (7176) **5.00** Clarissa (7918) **5.30** Wishbone (1756) **6.00** Doug (8669) **6.30** Ferns (2621) **6.30** Afraid? (34973) **7.30-8.00** Sister Sister (8805)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Global Family (6019350) **4.30** Earthfile (6015534) **5.00** Lonely Planet (7131195) **6.00** Invention (6036027) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (8900466) **7.30** Frontline (6016263) **8.00** Untamed (4135621) **9.00** Seven Wonders (4155485) **10.00** Supership (4125244) **11.00** Mysteries (6468089) **11.30-12.00** Wars in Peace (4767718)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Man Beast (45625468) **1.15pm** Honey West (2438282) **2.00** Saint (4766089) **3.00** Scotland Yard (7144669) **3.30** Interpol (6034669) **4.00** FILM: A Shot in the Dark (7148485) **6.00** Death Valley (6023553) **6.30** Avengers (8997992) **7.30** Protectors (6010089) **8.00** Saint (4139447) **9.00** King (4142911) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Rancho Deluxe (6467350)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony (7111027) **7.00** Living (8685535) **9.00** All Well (6422468) **9.30** Kate (7865718) **10.00** Hearts of Gold (3415832) **11.00** The Young (8864263) **11.55** Masterchef (2830114) **12.30pm** Brookside (5398381) **1.05** Kilroy (6019008) **2.00** Agony (2255391) **3.00** Living (6787089) **4.00** Infatuation UK (4946534) **4.30** Crosswits (6658911) **5.05** Joker's Wild (75402263) **5.30** Bewitched (4966398) **6.00** Esther (4958911) **6.30** Brookside (5301350) **7.05** Infatuation UK (5019282) **7.35** Joker's Wild (9212331) **8.00** The Young (6229331) **9.00** FILM: Women of Valor (55644060) **10.55** Entertainment (9844263) **11.00-12.00** Dangerous Women (2065391)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Wonder Years (6114) **5.30** Tintin (4244) **6.00** Batman (4485) **6.30** Catchphrase (5737) **7.00** Keyhole (6350) **7.30** Fall Guy (26076) **8.30** Home (1805) **9.00** Mixer (50466) **10.00** All Clued Up (35060) **10.30** Neon Rider (26992) **11.30** Batman (12992) **12.00** Fall Guy (73596) **1.00am** Zorro (72916) **1.30** Rhoda (15119) **2.00** Rider (63428) **3.00** Rhoda (85480) **3.30** Zorro (79954) **4.00** Wonder Years (67119) **4.30-5.00** Black Stallion (93409)

MTV

6.30am The Grind (34114) **7.00** 3 from 1 (2279911) **7.15** Awake (6006756) **8.00** VJ Maria (948553) **10.30** Rockumentary (52737) **11.00** Soul (42621) **12.00** Hits (84824) **1.00pm** Non-Stop (60244) **2.00** 3 from 1 (45958669) **2.15** Non-Stop (4080534) **3.00** Cinematic (4737669) **3.15** Hanging Out (1387669) **4.00** News **4.15** 15 Minutes of Fame (3907331) **4.30** Dial (5350) **5.00** Hit List UK (57282) **7.00** Hits (56640) **8.00** Herbert (32060) **9.00** London (12718) **9.30** Beavis (65553) **10.00** News **10.15** Cinematic **10.30** Reggae (53466) **11.00** The End? (18973) **12.30am** Videos (4882409)

VH-1

7.00am Power (9957718) **9.00** Café (7876843) **12.00** Heart (1231331) **1.00pm** Vinyl (1257379) **2.00** Isaacs (1821350) **3.00** Music (4984718) **6.00** Jimi Hendrix (1260843) **7.00** For You (9569060) **8.00** Album (9589824) **10.00** Backtrack 1966 (5215350) **10.30** Def Leppard (5231398) **11.00** Vance (3715973) **1.00am** McKenna (5485119) **2.00** Dawn Patrol

ZEE TV

7.00am Asian Morning (11133918) **8.30** Public Demand (20576737) **9.30** Campus (20220485) **10.00** Stars (32664089) **11.00** Khana Khazana (12408114) **11.30** Filmi Chakkar (12409843) **12.00** Dekh Bhai Dekh (49055621) **12.30pm** Galazzee (20281973) **1.00** Hindi Film (24328911) **4.00** Khubsoorat (28365447) **4.30** Junglee (28354331) **5.00** Zone (69066027) **5.30** Gujrati Serial (28378911) **6.00** Pakistan Business (28375824) **6.30** Zee (28366176) **7.00** Parampara (90069485) **8.00** News (69075911) **8.30** Yule Love Stories (69081718) **9.00** Hindi Film (12786485) **11.30-12.00** Urdu Show (26361534)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Cartoons from 5am to 9pm, then TNT films.

9.00pm Presenting Lily Mars (1943) (99793331) **11.00 Young Tom Edison** (1940) (68100027) **12.35am Young Man With Ideas** (1953) (82127913) **2.05 Young Dr Kildare** (1938) (91304954) **3.30-5.00 We Who Are Young** (1940) (59063157)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel.

BUSINESS

Forte to shake up board ahead of defence document

By Lindsay Cook and Alasdair Murray

BOARDROOM changes are expected at Forte as the hotel group fights off the £3.4 billion unwelcome takeover bid from Granada.

Forte, which has been recruiting senior management for the past three years to improve strength at the top, says that promotions to the board from the new talent were always planned. The promotions from the 75 new senior managers are expected to be announced when those whose places they are to take have been informed.

A spokeswoman said: "There is a managerial evolution going on and this is still under way. Of course, there will be change, but this will be made at the right time for the company and not at a timetable prompted by an unwelcome bid."

The company confirmed that it is continuing to seek a buyer for the 72 White Hart hotels. The hotels are expected to raise about £100 million. The Travelodge chain in America, also on the market, is valued similarly by analysts. Forte, which has 14 days from the announcement of the bid on Wednesday to produce a defence document, is expected to take the full time to fine-tune its arguments. Sir Rocco Forte, the chairman, was at the company's headquarters yesterday for a number of meetings before having to leave for a tea party to celebrate the 87th birthday of his father, Lord Forte. Meanwhile, Granada hit back at Forte's claims that Granada was intent on asset-striping. Gerry Robinson, chief executive, said that the extent of Granada's disposal plans had been exaggerated.

"We would have to dispose of the motorway service stations, but beyond that we would only sell the two investment stakes in the Savoy and Alpha Airports and Lillywhites, a sports shop which does not fit with the group," he said. Granada believes that Forte has spent the past few years selling off the family silver to help to meet dividend payments. Granada suggested it would not sell off the White Hart chain but seek to rebrand a section of the chain and allow the other hotels to run themselves.

Granada's next move will come this week when it meets with the Forte council and its own shareholders to further outline its position.

Approval sought for TSB merger

By Patricia Tehan
Banking Correspondent

LLOYDS BANK will today ask its shareholders to approve its proposed £13.6 billion union with TSB at an extraordinary general meeting in London.

TSB shareholders will meet on Wednesday to approve the bank's takeover by Lloyds.

Security today is expected to be tight after the disruption caused by protesters at its annual shareholder meeting and extraordinary meeting to approve its takeover of the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society in March. Protesters from the Lloyds and Midland Boycott (Lamb) action group delayed proceedings with calls for Lloyds to change its policies relating to "the environment, the Third World and the arms trade".

A Lloyds spokeswoman said the bank hoped that "there will not be any trouble. This is an opportunity for all our shareholders to ask questions about the merger. We hope that they will be able to do so."

The deal is a reverse takeover, with TSB technically buying Lloyds. It was structured that way in order to preserve the rights of shareholders of the TSB Foundation, the charitable foundation, which will receive 1 per cent of the average profits of the enlarged group.

Shareholders are being asked to vote in favour of a scheme of arrangement which will enable the share capital of Lloyds to be cancelled.

They will be issued with new shares in Lloyds TSB, with Lloyds shareholders holding 70.7 per cent of the new share capital and TSB shareholders holding 29.3 per cent.

Assuming the shareholders of both banks agree over the deal and the scheme of arrangement receives court approval on Monday, December 18, the last day of dealings in Lloyds shares is scheduled to be Wednesday, December 27. The new shares are to begin trading the day after.

Clarke told to reject giveaway Budget tax cuts

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BRITAIN'S business leaders yesterday gave a concerted last-minute warning to Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, against taking risks with the economy for political reasons by announcing giveaway tax cuts in his Budget tomorrow.

Business is braced for a Budget that most industry leaders privately accept will go little, if any, way towards giving industry what it wants.

Business leaders recognise that the Budget will be primarily political. And while they acknowledge the Government's need for a Budget that will boost the Conservatives' electoral fortunes, they are making clear their concerns, both publicly and privately to ministers, that any such political move could threaten Britain's economic fortunes.

The leaders, from a range of business bodies, called for a prudent, modest Budget that would keep Britain's economy on its present course but that would allow for tax cuts.

They were sceptical about a "big numbers" Budget, with cuts of up to £8 billion. Proponents of this strategy argue that that would allow for substantial tax cuts, with the prospect of more next year, would pave the way for an interest rate reduction and would please the City.

Adair Turner, the Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, said yesterday: "We would be concerned if there was a big giveaway if that led to a PSBR higher than we are expecting."

CBI forecasts are suggesting a PSBR of about £20 billion, and its analysts are incredulous at suggestions that the Chancellor will report a PSBR total of perhaps up to half that.

Mr Turner said that if there were tax cuts of more than about £3 billion which led to an increase in public borrowing, then "I think it would make interest rate cuts difficult to achieve". He suggested that consumer spending was not perhaps as subdued as regular retail sales figures indicated, since an increase in that spending was now being absorbed by the National Lottery rather than being seen by higher spending in high street stores.

Anatole Kaletsky 42
Graham Searjeant 42

Tim Melville-Ross, Director-General of the Institute of Directors, struck a similar note, insisting it was very important that Mr Clarke produced a fiscally balanced Budget that weighed tax cuts directly against cuts in public spending.

Questioned on GMTV about the prospect of a Budget producing giveaway tax cuts of £5 billion to £8 billion, he said: "We would be very worried about that, and so would the City. The immediate consequence of that would certainly be less likelihood of interest rates being cut, and even the prospect of their going up again. And that would be very damaging — both economically and politically."

While he thought that a return to recession was unlikely, he accepted that there was now a "risk" of the economy slipping back into one.

Mr Melville-Ross also said that he found the idea of an initial 10p starter tax rate, as proposed by Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, "in isolation very attractive". However, he said that its likely cost of £6 billion to £8 billion would have to be funded in other ways, such as increasing burdens on business or increased tax rates for higher taxpayers.

Ian Thompson, economics adviser of the EEF, the engineering employers' grouping, said that the Chancellor should do nothing that would threaten the "fragile and frankly disappointing recovery".

Insisting that "there doesn't appear to be much run for tax cuts at all," he said that if Mr Clarke did announce cuts in taxation, then they should be applied to industry and employers as well as to consumers and employees.

He said that the Chancellor should not favour cuts in taxes which people could see, in their pay packets and on prices, as against those on employers they could not.



Lending hand: Kenneth Clarke at a constituency fund-raising event at the weekend

Switch to PFI may smooth way on spending

By Anatole Kaletsky
Economics Editor

TREASURY officials have confirmed that the use of the Private Finance Initiative to pay for capital investment could have a substantial effect on the Government's public spending figures.

A spokesman said: "If a hospital or a road gets built under the PFI, it is then a private sector asset and the investment is not included under public spending."

Tax experts believe that the Government could tomorrow announce a cut in its capital-spending budget of at least £2 billion, simply switching this money into the PFI. This would give Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, substantial extra scope to cut taxes.

A Treasury spokesman said that the public sector will probably bear running costs such as rent, maintenance, depreciation, lease payments and so on but this will be counted as current spending and spread over many years.

Labour politicians are suspicious that some PFI projects are being designed specifically to defer government spending to future years and so saddle an incoming Labour government with additional spending commitments.

A Department of Health official confirmed the increasing use of private finance in the National Health Service. He said: "The PFI is a way of generating savings and freeing more money for patient care."

He said that NHS trusts would award contracts worth £400 million under the PFI before the end of this financial year, adding that he could not comment on PFI funds for next year because of pre-Budget purdah.

But he said: "We are anticipating an acceleration of some substance in the use of the PFI".

Grain importers act to curb port powers on cargoes

By Colin Narbrough

THE national organisation for grain importers has called a meeting of representatives of the foodstuffs and feed industry to plan how to remove, or reduce, powers British ports have to restrain cargoes that have been paid for.

Pamela Kirby Johnson, director-general of the Grain and Feed Trade Association (Gafta), has called the meeting for December 12 in London after the recent High Court dispute between the Port of Felixstowe, part of the global empire of Li Ka-shing, the Hong Kong billionaire, and A Poortman, a small London food importer, over the port's restraint of £100,000 worth of Turkish split lentils owned by Poortman.

Felixstowe, Britain's largest container port, had its interpretation of its right to exercise lien over the 300 tonnes of lentils to offset debts incurred by an insolvent shipping line upheld by Mr Justice Clarke.

The ruling was based on the assumption that the port's terms and conditions were relevant. The court proceedings were discontinued before Mr Justice Clarke could rule on a separate point over whether the port's conditions were "fair and reasonable" under the terms of the Unfair Contracts Terms Act (1977).

The hearing produced a judgment on the narrow point of the construction of the lien clause and the judge told the court that he recognised Poortman's feeling that Felixstowe had acted unfairly.

Britain's ports' terms and conditions allow port operators to restrain goods, even when they have been fully paid for and are the legal property of the importer or exporter. Gafta is concerned that UK ports are being allowed to operate with onerous and unfair conditions. Big continental European ports, such as Rotterdam, have no such rights over cargoes. Rotterdam has in the past made an attachment on containers, but not on their contents.

Many ports use a system of bank guarantees from shipping companies' port agents, which ensures the release of cargoes on arrival and makes it unnecessary to have the right to exercise lien.

Mrs Kirby Johnson wants the December 12 meeting to agree on a strategy to end the British system which her organisation's members consider thoroughly unreasonable.

Felixstowe agreed after the hearing on November 10 to release Poortman's lentils and settle the dispute.

Negative equity 'overstated'

By Rachel Kelly, Property Correspondent

FALLING house prices are good for the economy and the problem of negative equity has been overstated, according to a right-wing think-tank.

Lower prices and a stable housing market are part and parcel of a low-inflation economy, says a paper published today by the Social Market Foundation.

Its authors, Andrew Cooper and Roderick Nye, argue that the number of people said to be suffering negative equity — where the value of their property has fallen below their outstanding mortgage — is consistently exaggerated.

The figures, they say, fail to account for people who move, those who make lump-sum repayments and households with endowment policies, the surrender value of which may be greater than the property's loss in value.

The paper says the problem is largely concentrated in southeast England, among young people who first bought homes in the boom period of the late 1980s. Only people in this group who need to sell up and go back to renting actually suffer.

The authors say calls for the Government to kick start the market come from borrowers and mortgage lenders with most to gain from an inflationary boom in house prices. "Any such boom would be likely to lead to higher interest rates, which could again trap future first-time buyers at the bottom of the housing ladder."

British Gas loses favour with public

British Gas has slipped again in the public's perception, according to a survey for the magazine *Management Today* that shows the privatised utility is now one of the least-regarded companies among Britain's industrial leaders. Two years ago, it stood at 48 out of 250 companies but in today's report has fallen to 216.

Charles Skinner, editor of *Management Today*, says the fall in the past year is largely connected with the row about big salary rises for senior executives.

Cadbury Schweppes came first in the survey with Unilever close behind. Trafalgar House was bottom, close to Eurotunnel.

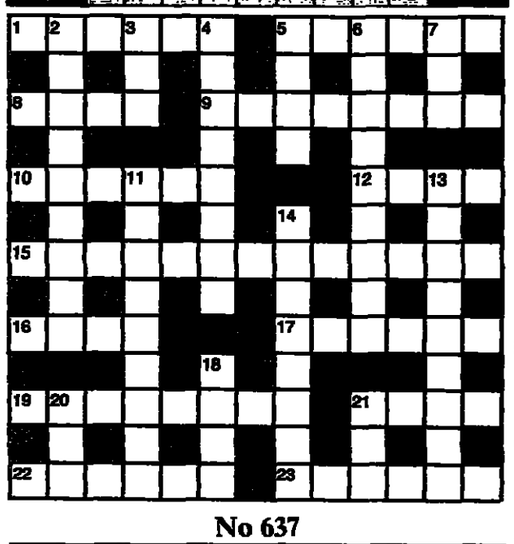
Express plan

Andrew Neil, former editor of *The Sunday Times*, is the latest name linked to a bid for Express Newspapers. He has drawn up a business plan prepared by Arthur Andersen, the firm of accountants, and has secured £300 million backing from the City. If the group is put on the market, Mr Neil, who is understood to have offered £230 million for the group, could face stiff competition from Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and Mirror Group Newspapers.

Share offering

PolyMASC, a London biopharmaceutical company, is launching a £5 million share offering today and seeks a listing on the Alternative Investment Market at the start of next year. PolyMASC specialises in developing improved delivery mechanisms for drugs using a technique that disguises the drug from the body's immune system.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 637

ACROSS
1 Burn: drive fast (6)
5 With loose flesh (6)
8 Cook slowly: overbrew (tea) (4)
9 Romantic piano piece; night picture (8)
10 Squat down (6)
12 Frolic (4)
15 Politically amoral, devious (13)
16 Run away (4)
17 A couple of quick punches (3-3)
19 Candidate for the ministry (8)
21 Old Tory opponent (4)
22 Mounted (show) (6)
23 (Placed) below (6)

DOWN
2 Yowl like a cat (9)
3 Unprocessed (3)
4 Faithful attendant (8)
5 True piece of information (4)
6 Painting in watercolour washes (9)
7 Bulk container (3)
11 Paying no regard (9)
13 In the interim (9)
14 Indebted (8)
18 Short of hair (4)
20 Unthinking routine (3)
21 Intelligence, humour (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 636
ACROSS: 1 Handmade 5 Spud 9 Coronet 10 Tonic 11 Dear 12 Century 14 In-tray 16 Opener 19 Sceptre 21 Cape 24 Untie 25 Bad luck 26 Lees 27 Befriend
DOWN: 1 Hack 2 Nerve 3 Minerva 4 Detach 6 Penguin 7 Dockyard 8 Stun 13 Kiss-curl 15 Theatre 17 Picador 18 Pebble 20 Teem 22 Prude 23 Skid

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